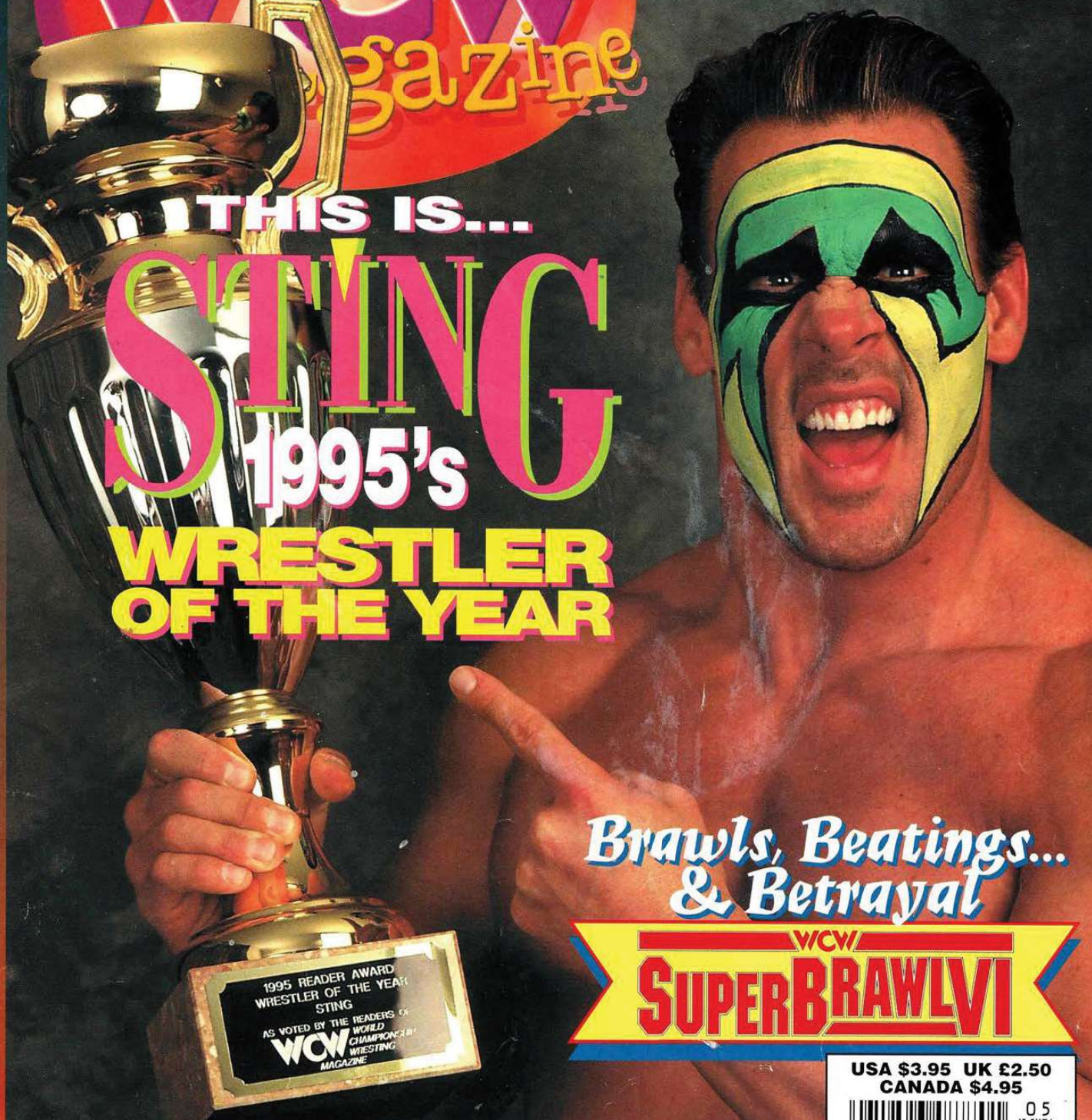
The Official Magazine of World Championship Wrestling Issue 15 May 1996

WCW Magazine

RANDY & LIZ— THE SHOCKING TRUTH



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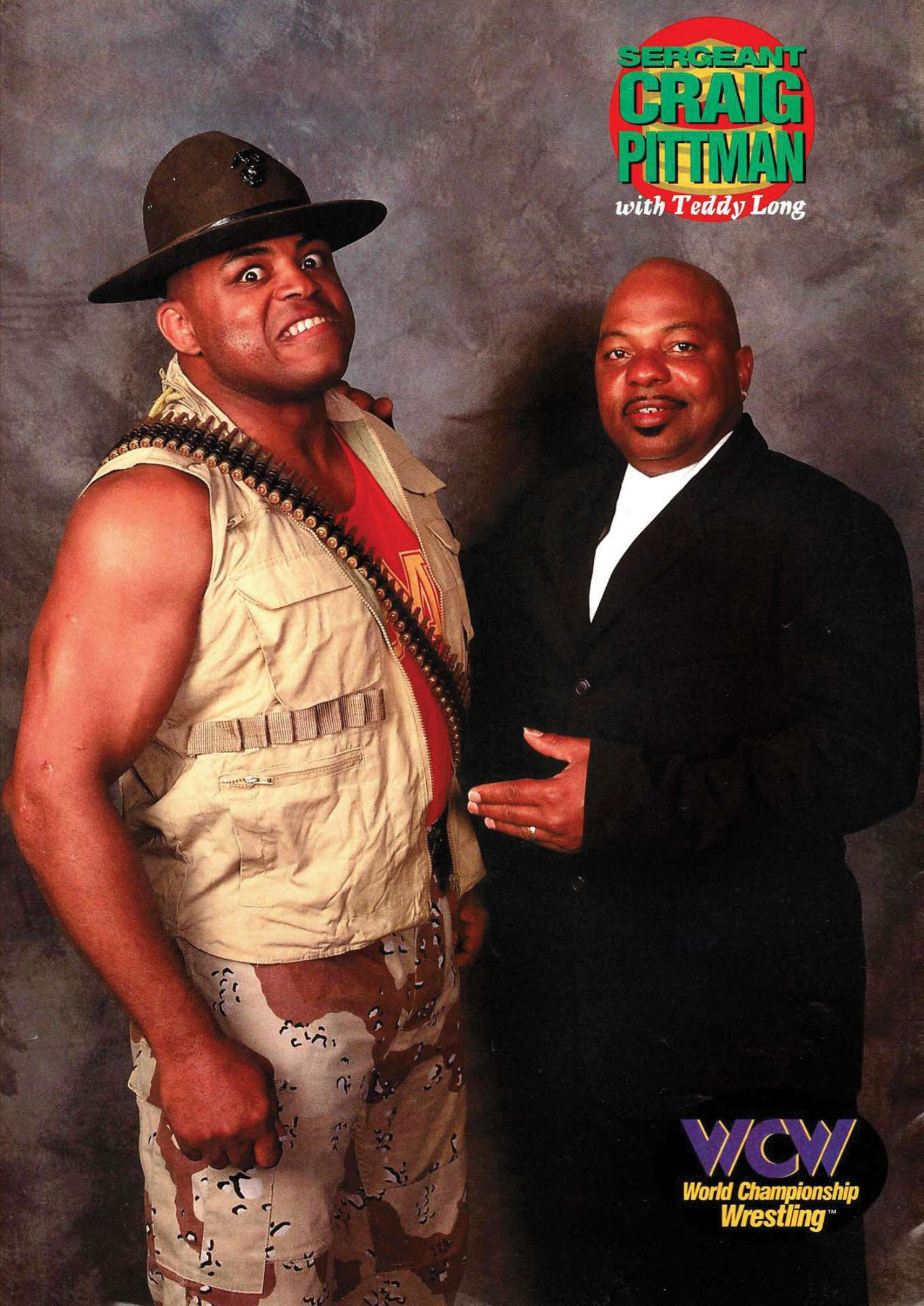
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WCW magazine

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Editor's Note

Congratulations to Sting and also — albeit grudgingly — Bobby "The Brain" Heenan on scooping two of the 1995 Reader Awards. Now in a break from from tradition you will have to wait until next month's issue to find out who has won the other three awards. There is nothing sinister behind this decision. It was just felt that because we had so much to report on in this issue, it would be a shame if we could not properly honor the wrestlers you have voted for, due to a lack of space.

We frequently talk about change in this magazine. Changes to the roster in WCW, changes in the attitudes of wrestlers and changes to the magazine.

This month is no exception.

The first change you will notice is the absence of the WCW Merchandise Catalog. This is a temporary situation. WCW is in the process of developing the most exciting and innovative selection of wrestling merchandise ever. And as soon as the range is in place you will once again be able to order it from this magazine.

The next change you will notice is the absence of DDP's and Lord Steven Regal's columns. Since I had been forced to run DDP's column in the first place, I had no hesitation in ditching it when the opportunity presented itself after SuperBrawl. As for The Regal Decree, Lord Steven Regal's column was starting to sail too close to the wind, legally speaking. After he refused to tone down the content on the grounds of compromising his integrity we decided to end the column.

Now I am sure they had one or two fans out there and may even be missed, but don't worry, I haven't let you down and have found a more than adequate replacement. And she's certainly a lot easier on the eyes than the other two. That's right, starting next month Madusa is joining our editorial team. Her column will be controversial and fun as she brings you news from behind the scenes. And get this. She wants you to write to her with your questions and comments about wrestling. She will tackle any topic, no matter who or what. I'm looking forward to this one ... it's going to be wild!

On a final note regarding change, you will become aware of several more exciting changes to this magazine in the coming months, so please write in and tell me what you think of them. Please also let me know if you feel there are any other changes we could make to ensure that WCW Magazine remains a fitting oracle for the greatest wrestling organization and wrestlers in the whole world.

After all when the Big Boys speak they do so in WCW Magazine.

Best wishes

Colin Bowman
Editor

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WCW Update

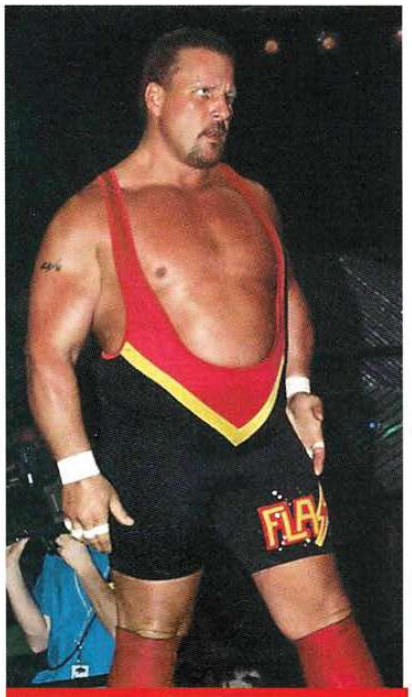
No surprise

It is sometimes very hard to keep a secret. Especially when you stumble upon a piece of information that needs to be shared with the fans.

That's exactly the situation WCW Magazine found itself in when it covered the opening of Hacksaw Jim Duggan's gym last year. In attendance were Duggan, Randy Savage, the Nasty Boys, Hulk Hogan and ... Big Brother Booty AKA at the time, Zodiac.

Hulk explained the situation to us then and seeing as how Ric Flair, Kevin Sullivan and the others have continually run roughshod over this magazine and it's employees we agreed to keep quiet. We're very glad we did and it's great to see Booty back where he has always belonged.

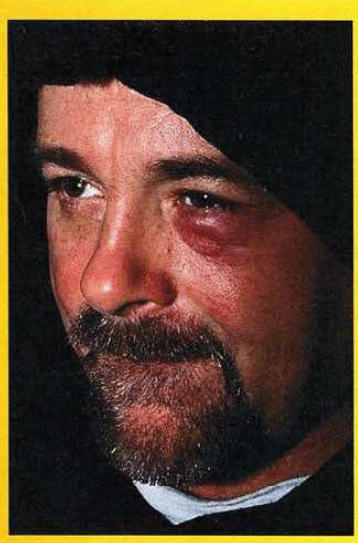
Our message to Sullivan, Flair and Hart is simple. Everybody knew this was happening, except you. Perhaps you should all spend more time concentrating on the matters in hand, instead of continually patting each other on the back. After all who will the next defector be?



Fire & ice

Scott Norton is unquestionably one of the most dangerous men in wrestling. However having spent the vast majority of his time wrestling in Japan, he operates under a strict code of ethics. One of these is to respect a worthy opponent.

When Scott Norton recently faced off against one of WCW's young lions, Ice Train he was so impressed with the talented youngster that he immediately asked him to form a tag team. Train accepted and Fire & Ice are one of our tips for 1996.



OUCH!

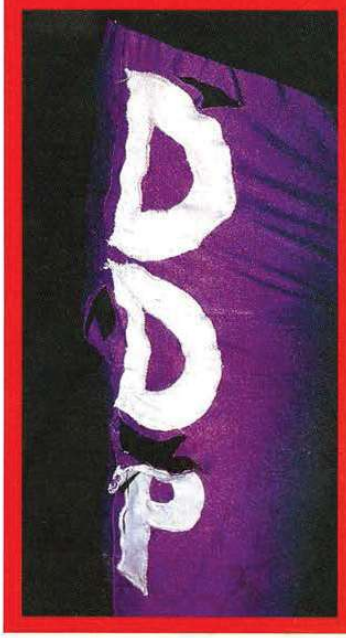
When we took this picture of the Taskmaster, we asked if he wanted to make any comment and this is what he told us.

"What you see here is the result of the shot that was heard around the world. A shot that spelled the end of the Four Horsemen!"

WCW EVENT NEWS

Here are the dates of WCW's upcoming major events:

June 16, 1996 **Great American Bash**
July 7, 1996 **Bash at the Beach**
August 15, 1996 **Special Event**
September 15, 1996 **Fall Brawl**
October 27, 1996 **Halloween Havoc**
November 24, 1996 **World War 3**
December 29, 1996 **Starrcade**



POVERTY

It is wrong to laugh at another man's misfortune, but in DDP's case we can't help it. It's the classic case of what goes around, comes around. And we'll admit to having a chuckle when his fancy clothes and car were repossessed.

However enough is enough. DDP you're an embarrassment and if you don't lose the match at Uncensored, I hope WCW will ban you anyway until you can afford a decent pair of tights to wrestle in.

STOP PRESS The Television title changed hands three times during a three week period in late February early March. Lex Luger pinned Johnny B. Badd on Feb. 17 in Baltimore, MD, but lost it back to Badd the following night in Norfolk, VA. Then right on press time, Lex Luger regained the belt when he pinned Johnny on the March 9 edition of WCW Saturday Night, albeit in dubious circumstances.

Given Lex's incredible vanity, questions must be raised about which belt will be given his priority, the TV title or the Tag Team Championship he holds with Sting

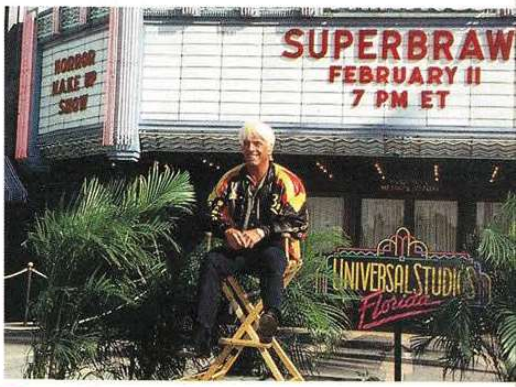
Blues Brothers

Ask the Nasty Boys about their heroes and top of the list will be the Blues Brothers as portrayed by Dan Ackroyd and the late, great John Belushi.

During a break at Universal Studios, Knobs & Sags discovered the original Bluesmobile from the film and just had to have this picture taken for their own personal collection.

Driver wanted

Ever wondered how the Dungeon of Doom gets about? The answer is with great difficulty. During the tapings at Universal Studios, Meng, Hugh Morrus, the One Man Gang and Barbarian decided they wanted to be driven to the canteen. They all then jumped on board the golf buggy in the picture, while a hostess was summoned to drive them. Needless to say, the diminutive young lady took one look at the passengers in her cart and ran away. As far as we know she hasn't been seen since and the Dungeon never actually did get to take that ride.

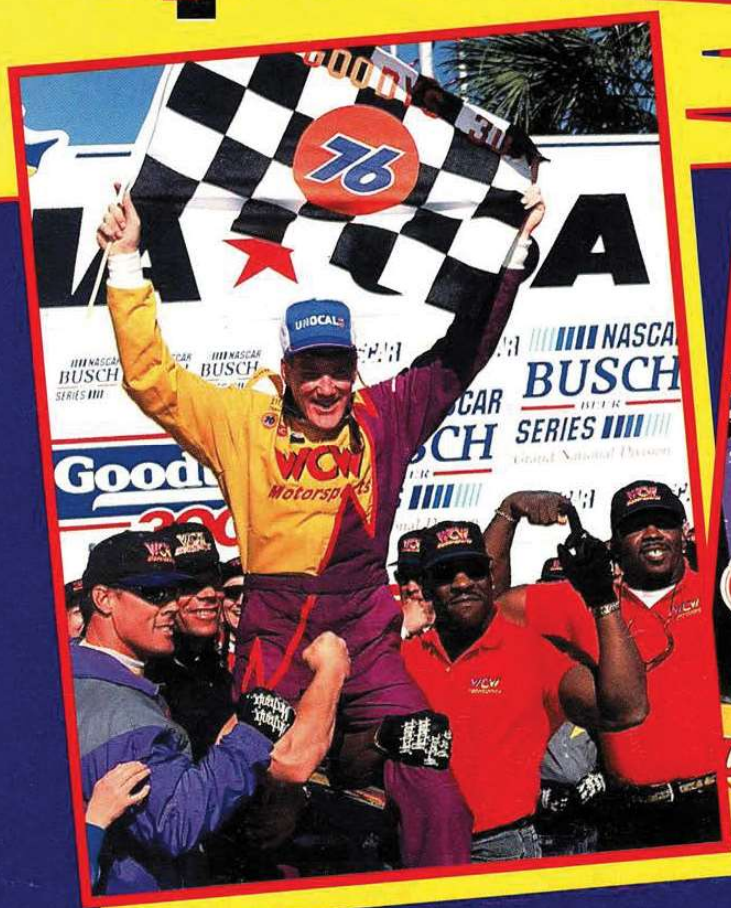


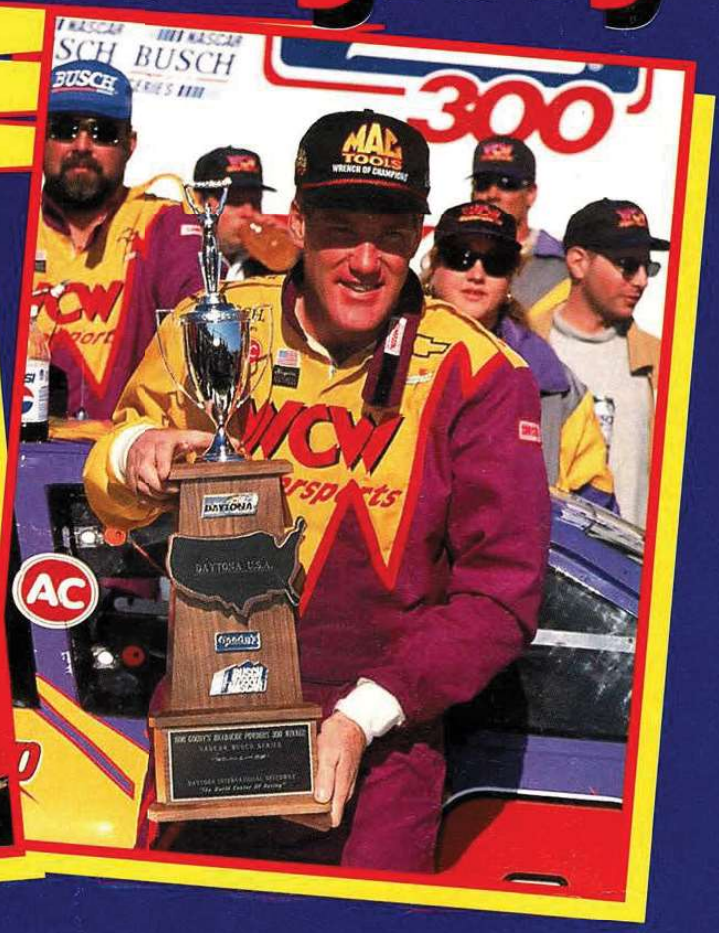
Into space

After years of telling everyone about Space Mountain, Ric Flair or at least his voice, made a trip through space when he was the subject of a Satellite Media tour.

The event, to promote SuperBrawl, took place in front of a huge crowd in Florida, who listened intently as "The Nature Boy" styled and profiled with journalists from all over the globe. He even told them he would become the World Champion for the 13th time at SuperBrawl. What a true prediction that turned out to be.

GRISSOM speeds to glory





The Goody's 300, held Feb. 17th in Daytona, Fla., is the season-opening race for the NASCAR Busch Series season ... and Steve Grissom walked away with the checkered flag.

That means WCW also was victorious for this event of Starrcade-like proportions.

"Any time you win the first race that a sponsor is on the car with you, that's neat," said Grissom, who steers the car, No. 29. "And, to win in Daytona, well, that's just special. It's hard to get a car that is capable of winning in Daytona. Then, when you have a car that is capable of winning Daytona, it doesn't always happen. So, to actually win (the) Daytona (race), I'm thrilled."

Grissom's excitement was recognized days later by WCW management, with a full-page ad in USA TODAY.

"That ad was the talk of Rockingham (N.C., site of the Goodwrench 200, the second race of the season). In fact, that ad was the talk of the Busch Grand National AND the Winston Cup side of things," Grissom said. "The fact that WCW ran an ad like that in USA TODAY was amazing, because that's something that just doesn't happen in our sport."

"I think it (the ad) clearly showed the racing world about the commitment that WCW has to motor sports."

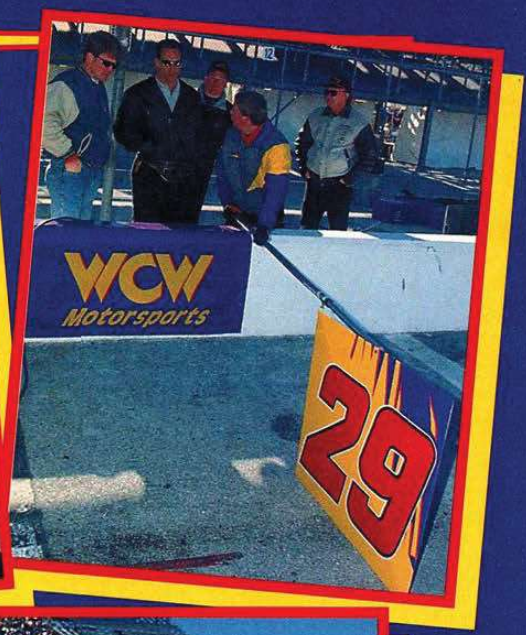
Said Michael Weber, WCW's director of marketing, "The win in Daytona, which is the mecca of motor sports, was simply phenomenal."

WCW inked a three-year deal with Charlotte-based Diamond Ridge Sports, owner of Grissom's car, which will compete in 18 races. Such as: the Red Dog 300 on May 25 in Charlotte, the Gatorade 200 on Aug. 31 in Darlington and the early-November Jiffy Lube Miami 300.

"I'm tickled to death to be involved with WCW," Grissom said. "It's amazing how many racing fans also are wrestling fans and vice versa. One of the neatest things is going to the wrestling matches and seeing fans with, say, shirts of (fellow driver) Dale Earnhardt, hats of Mark Martin, etc."

Added Weber, "There's no doubt that with Steve Grissom and Diamond Ridge Sports, we're hooked up with a winner."

Several WCW superstars, such as



Sting and Harlem Heat, have become regulars at Grissom's races. In fact fans were surprised to see Sting, Luger and Harlem Heat in the pits at Daytona, especially considering the on-going rivallry between the two teams.

"This was a day for motor sports, not wrestling," Booker T explained. "We weren't getting paid to beat up those two punks, we were out to enjoy the day. Rest assured, Sting and Luger will soon feel the wrath of Harlem Heat!"

Even WCW president Dr. Harvey Schiller and vice-president (business and administration) Nick Lambros have attended races.

"When I'm driving, it's neat to catch a glimpse of Sting, or any WCW superstar, cheering me on," Grissom said. "Knowing that Sting, Lex Luger and almost all of the WCW superstars get enjoyment out of the races is much like how I get enjoyment out of their matches."

So, Steve, who's your favorite wrestler?

"Sting, without a doubt," he said.

Does that mean you will wear face-paint when you drive?

"I don't know about that, but you can never tell," he added.

"I've told Sting this several times and — believe it or not — it's true ... after each appearance that I make at Monday Nitro, it's amazing at how many other drivers, crew members, racing media members, etc., watch the show and asked me about it later in the week. I guess that just shows the popularity of WCW — and the cross-over of fans."

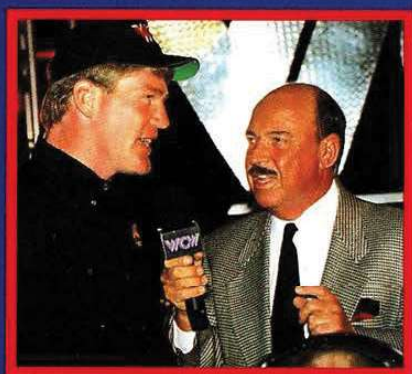
Several WCW superstars have actually driven the race car — under Grissom's watchful eye, of course.

"Sting did pretty well his first time in a race car," Grissom admitted. "Paul Orndorff didn't want to come off the track; he didn't want to stop. It seemed as though the harder we tried (to get him to stop), the faster he went. He really seemed to enjoy it. So did Hacksaw Jim Duggan and Diamond Dallas Page."

But not Ric Flair.

"I'll probably get my butt kicked for saying this, but, I'm going to do it anyway ... Ric Flair was chicken to get in the car and even go for a ride," Grissom said.

Evidently Flair has become too accustomed to limousines.



WCW MOTORSPORTS BUSCH SERIES SCHEDULE 1996

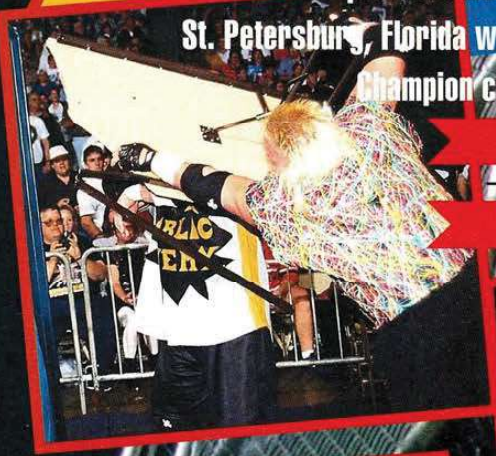
May 25	*Red Dog 300*	Charlotte, NC
June 1	*Delco Battery 200*	Dover. DL
June 30	*Lysol 200*	Watkins Glen, NY
July 27	*Hummingbird Fishfinder 500*	Tallageda, AL
Aug. 17	*Detroit Gasket 200*	Brooklyn, MI
Aug. 23	*Food City 250*	Bristol, TN
Aug. 31	*Gatorade 200*	Darlington, NC
Sept. 6	*Autolite Platinum 25*	Richmond, VA
Sept. 14	*Spitfire Spark Plug 200*	Dover, DL
Oct. 12	*A1 Pro Bumper to Bumper 300*	Charlotte, NC
Oct. 19	*AC-Delco 200*	Rockingham, NC
Nov. 3	*Jiffy Lube Miami 300*	Homestead, FL

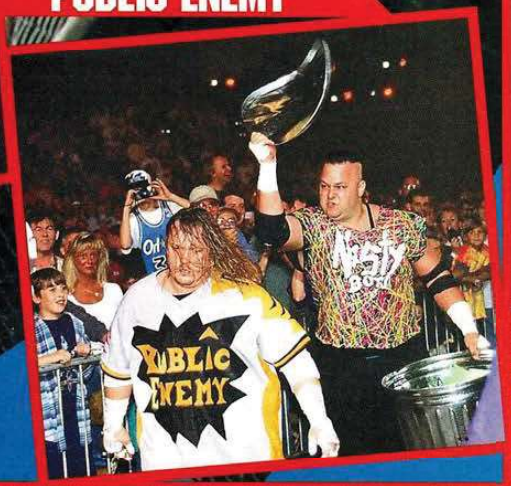
Brawls, Beatin

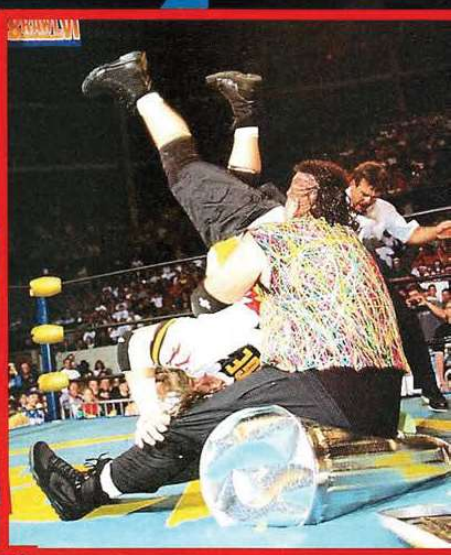
WCW SUPERBRAWL

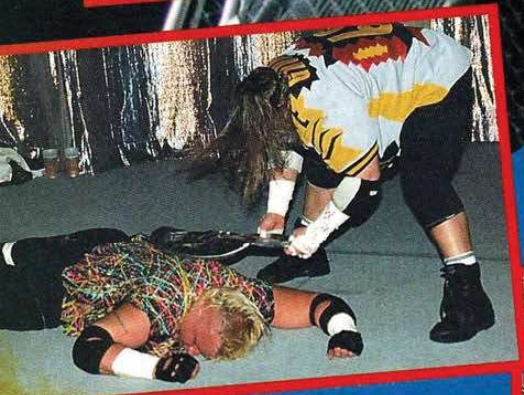
WCW history was made at each of the previous five SuperBrawl pay-per-view spectaculars, but the 1996 edition in sunny St. Petersburg, Florida was the most noteworthy yet! Not only was yet another new WCW World Champion crowned, but the most shocking betrayal in wrestling history took place. Read on and get all of the sordid details!

THE NASTY BOYS VS PUBLIC ENEMY







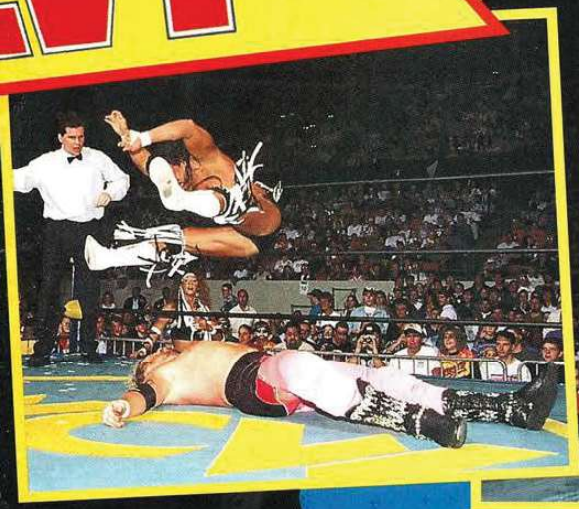


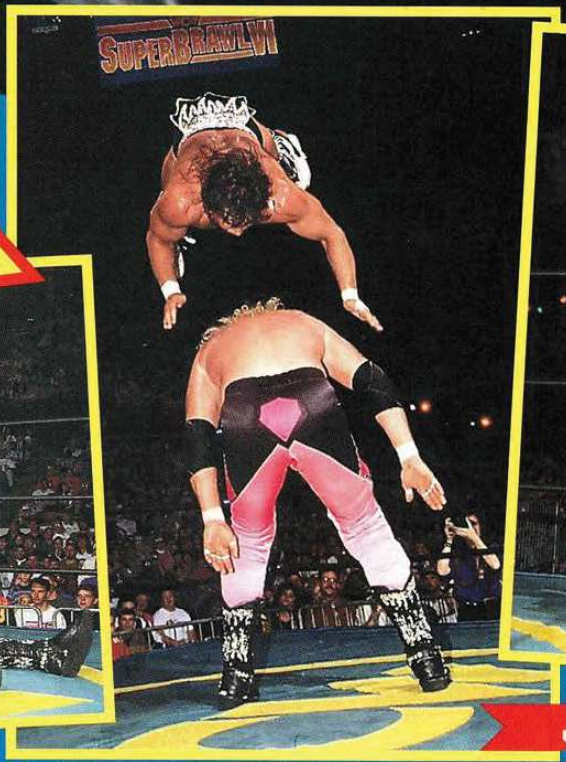
Referee Randy Eller knew what the score was for this no-holds-barred street fight: Call for the bell and let Sags, Knobs, "Flyboy" Rocco Rock and Johnny Grunge beat each other with everything but the kitchen sink! Believe us, that's just about what happened. Early on, Rock tried bringing a table to the ring, but he was blasted with a chair by Sags in the aisle before he could do his dirty work. Eventually, Rock got the table to ringside, and tried a flying leap onto a prone Knobs, but the blonde battler moved and Rock ended up going through the heavy wooden table! The battle had hardly been in the ring and soon spilled to the back of the arena to a souvenir stand. Rock climbed into the stands to moonsault onto Knobs, who had been placed on a table. As Rock made the 15-foot leap, Knobs again was too fast, and Rock again tasted table! Knobs then slammed the table onto Rock, and pinned him. Although they lost, Public Enemy has declared war on the Nasties. We say anytime these four tough guys get into the ring, there's bound to be incredible action, so let them at it!

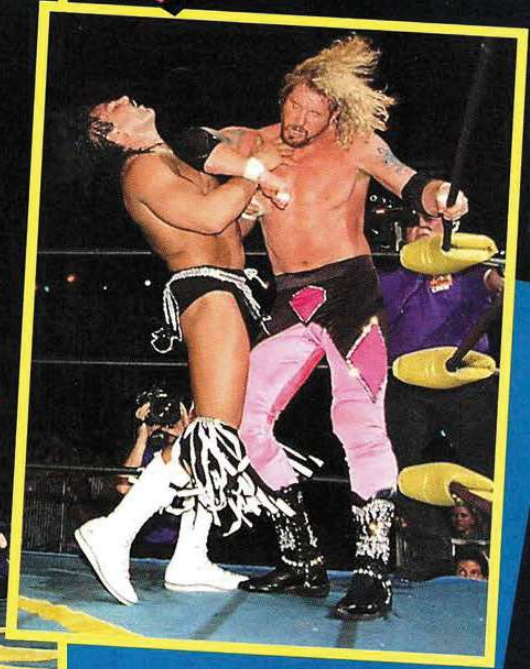
RESULT: Knobs pinned Rock

gs...& Betrayal

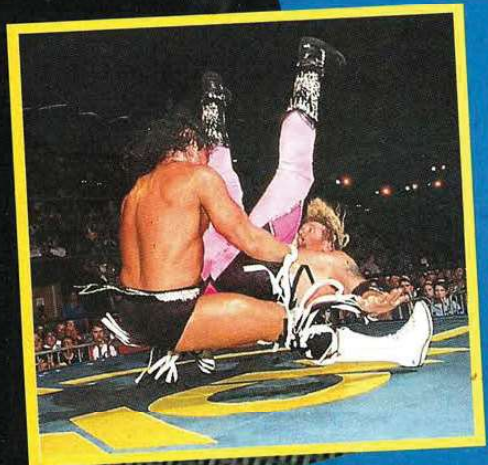
VI





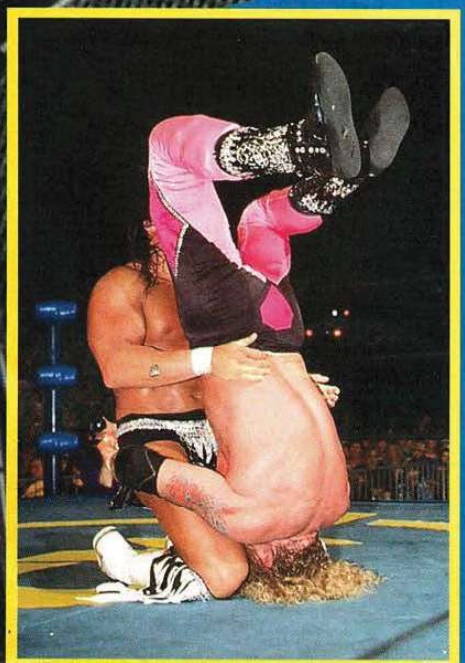


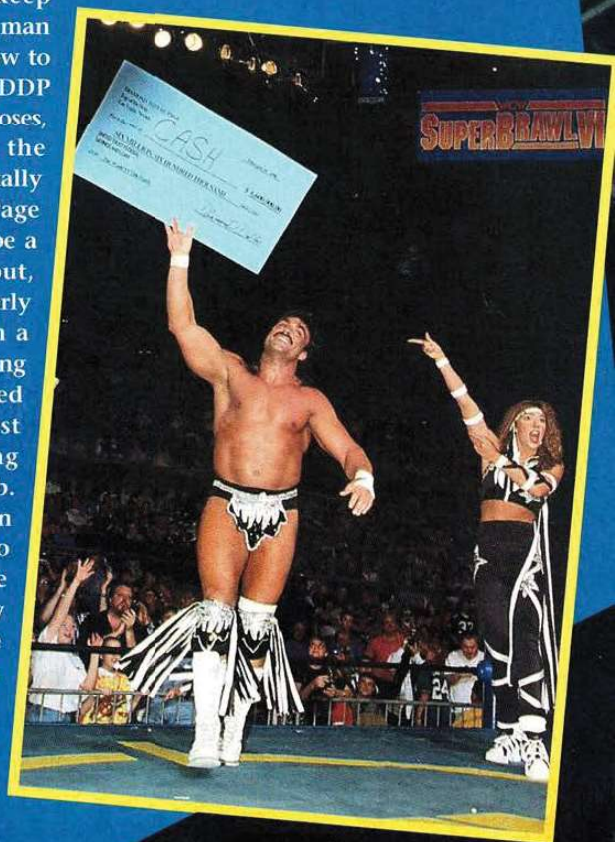
JOHNNY B. BADD VS DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE



Here were the stakes for this World Television title bout: If Badd lost, he had to give up his WCW TV belt, as well as "Diamond Doll" Kimberly. If Page lost, he had to forfeit the last $6.6 million left from his "lottery winnings." Johnny of course wanted to defend his TV belt, but just as important to him was to keep Kimberly away from Page, the man who has never quite learned how to treat a lady. Before the bell, DDP tried to give Kim a bouquet of roses, but Johnny blasted him and the riotous bout was on! To be totally honest, the much-maligned Page once again proved himself to be a world-class athlete in this bout, even managing to avoid an early defeat when Badd scored with a flying legdrop during the opening moments. In fact, Page kicked out from many of Badd's best maneuvers, including a flying sunset flip and a power bomb. However, Johnny prevailed when he reversed a flapjack into a piledriver and scored the winning pinfall. As Kimberly held her big check aloft for the crowd to see, two questions burned in the minds of WCW fans: Will Dallas Page ever stop trying to win back the hand of the woman who spurned him? And will it be for true love, or the $6.6 Million?

RESULT: Johnny B. Badd pinned DDP



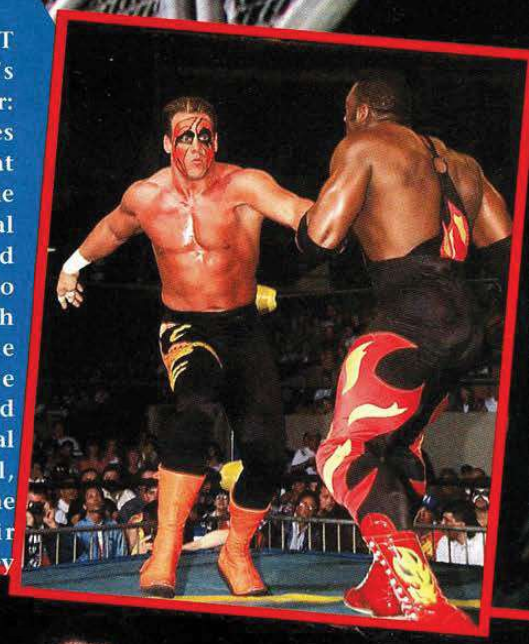


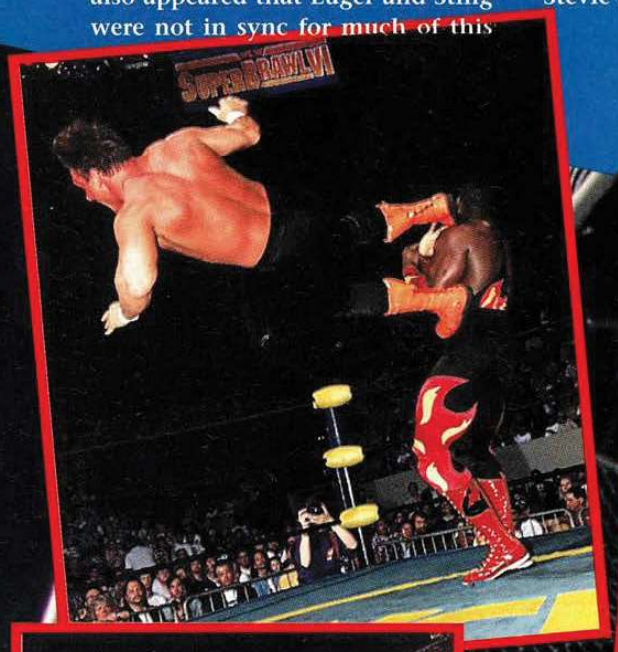
HARLEM HEAT VS LEX LUGER & STING

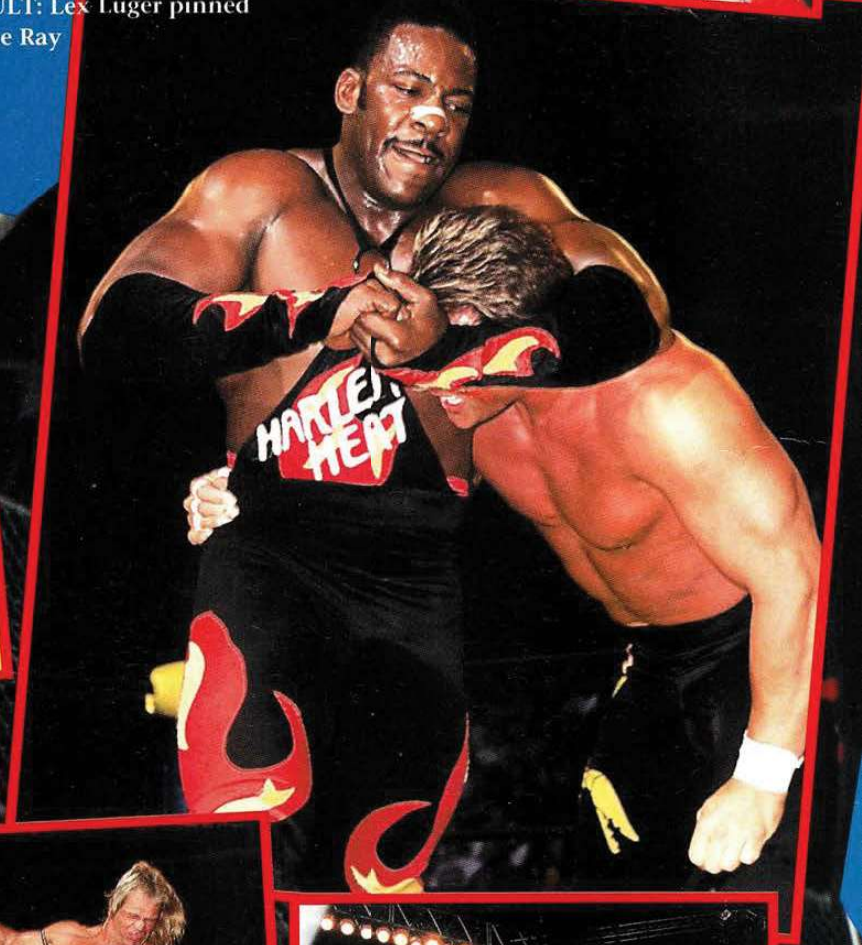
Luger and Sting knew their WCW World Tag Team title was in danger during this bout against Heat. They also realized that if they got past Heat, they'd have to face the mighty Road Warriors later on that night.

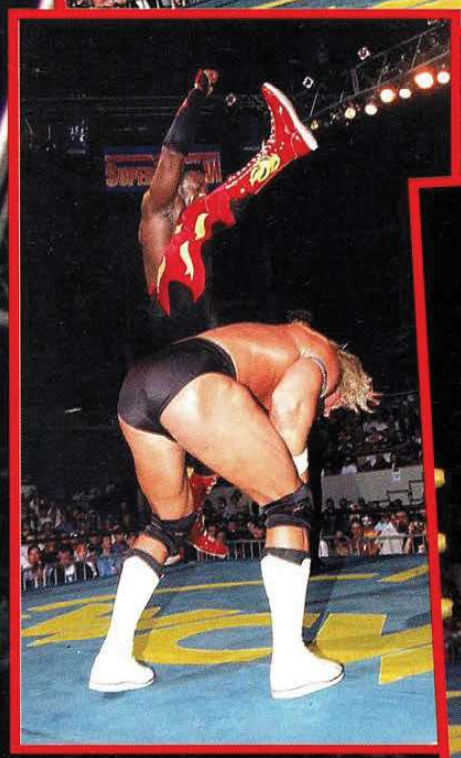
There appeared to be bad feelings between Luger and Sting at the onset of this important bout. Sting was not happy with the way Luger had used a piece of steel handed to him by Jimmy Hart to defeat the Warriors on the previous week's WCW Monday Nitro on TNT. It also appeared that Luger and Sting were not in sync for much of this bout, particularly when Booker T scored with one of wrestling's most spectacular moves on Luger: The spinwheel kick. Sting hates tainted victories, but that's what happened in this bout. Late in the action, Animal of the Road Warriors ran to the ring with another piece of steel while Stevie Ray had Luger up on his shoulders. Animal blasted Stevie with the steel, making the pinfall academic. The Road Warriors wanted their rematch, and they made sure they were going to get it!

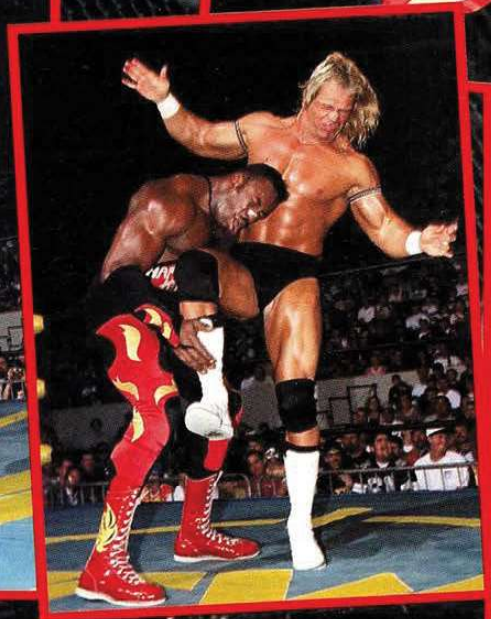
RESULT: Lex Luger pinned Stevie Ray

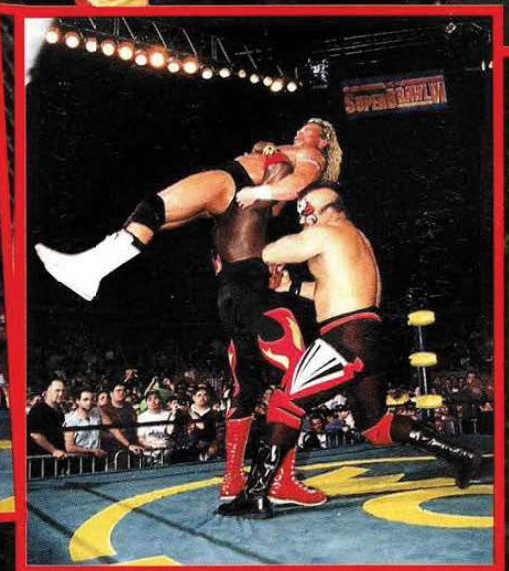


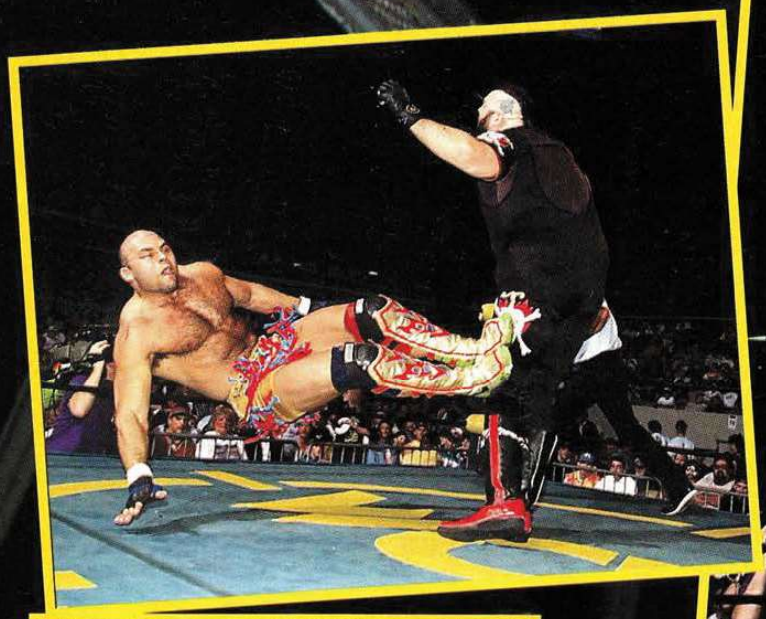


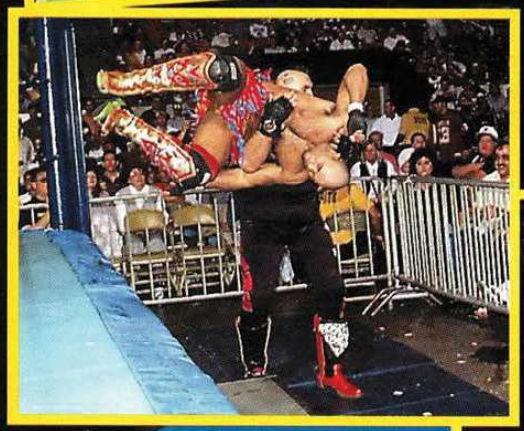


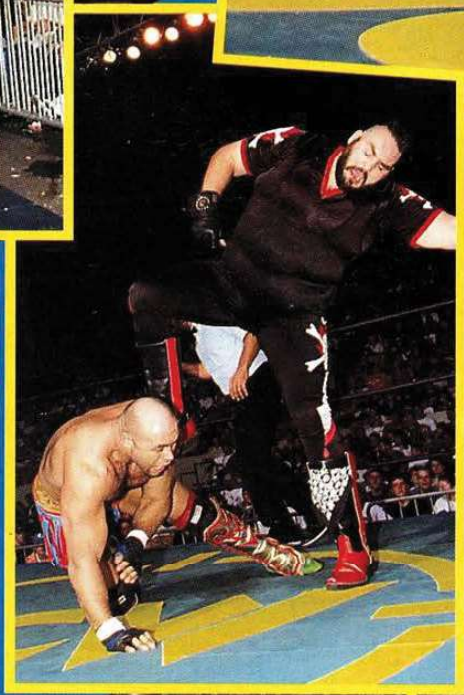


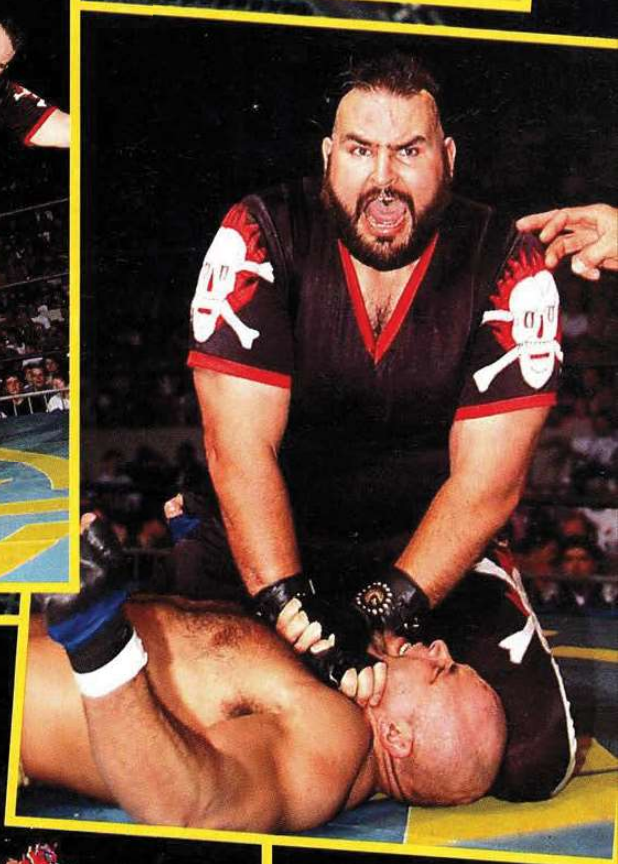


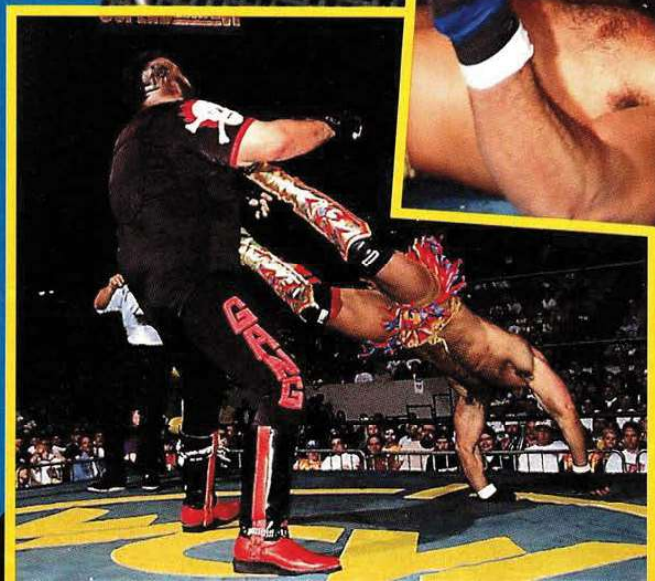






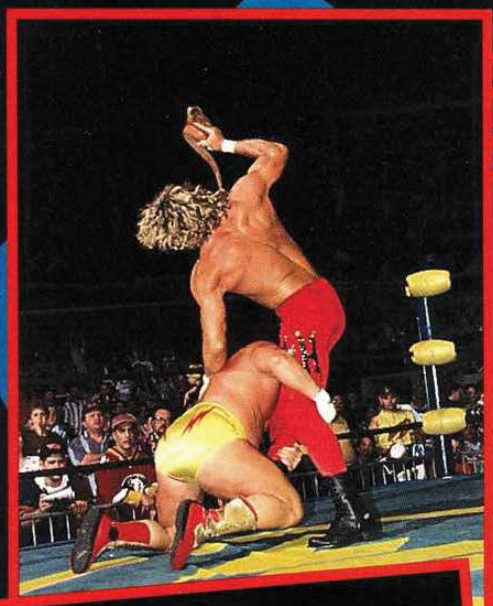




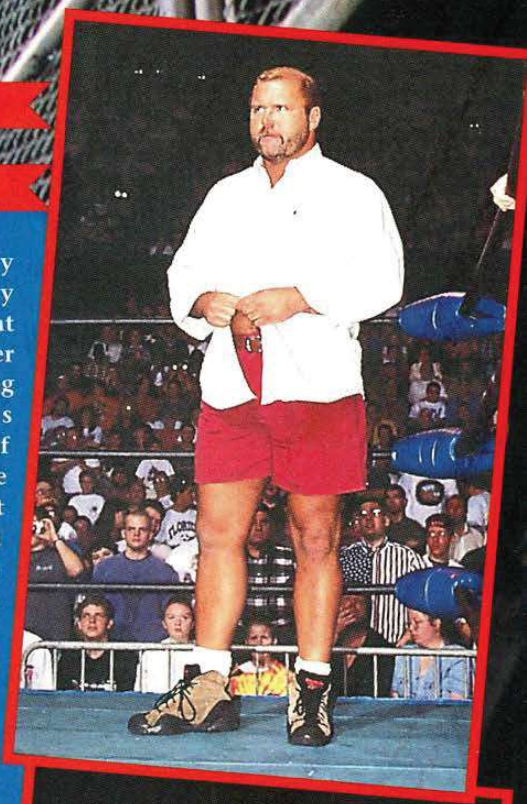


KONAN VS ONE MAN GANG

There's no denying it any longer: Konan has taken WCW by storm! Not only did the Mexican Champion defeat the burly One Man Gang to win the U.S. title, but he's been thrilling fans all over the mat world with his amazing arsenal of skills. An enraged Gang can be one of WCW's most dangerous men, but this was one of those rare bouts that proved to the world that Konan has the speed, skill and strength to defeat virtually anyone that the championship committee puts in his path. Now that Konan has disposed of Gang, who will the Dungeon Of Doom send to retrieve the belt? Meng? Hugh Morrus? Recently, Sting was a proud U.S. Champion. Now Konan is holding the belt with the same kind of pride that the Stinger once showed, and the fans love it!
RESULT: Konan pinned OMG

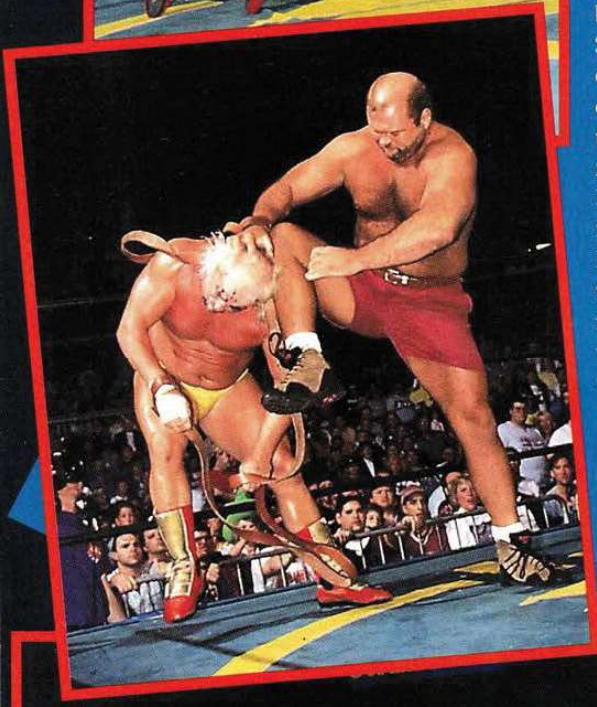


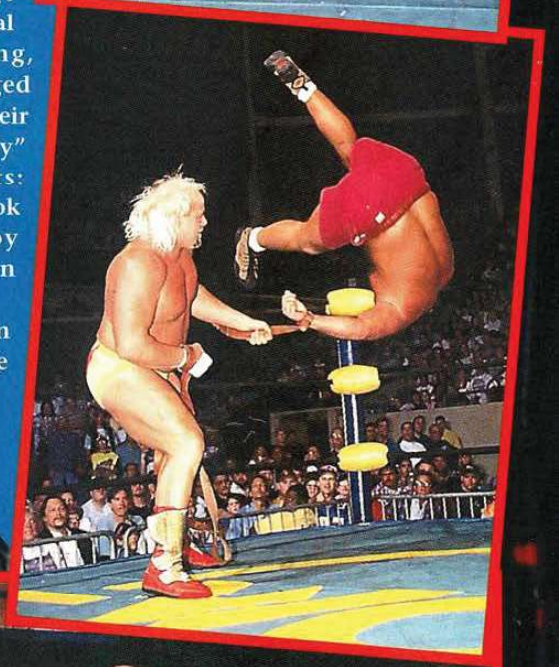
BRIAN PILLMAN VS THE TASKMASTER

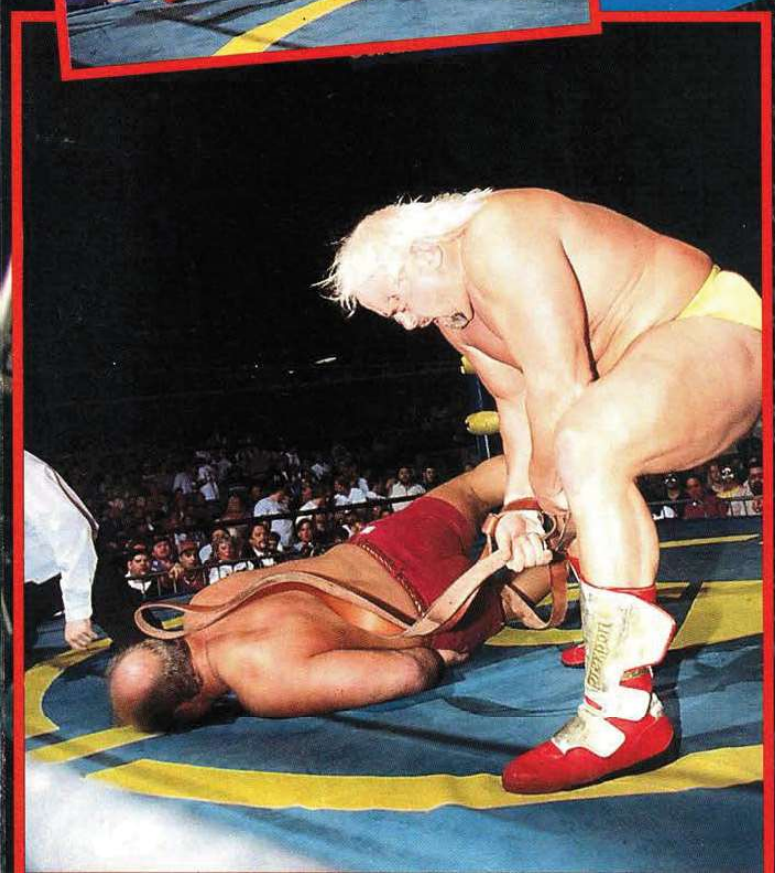


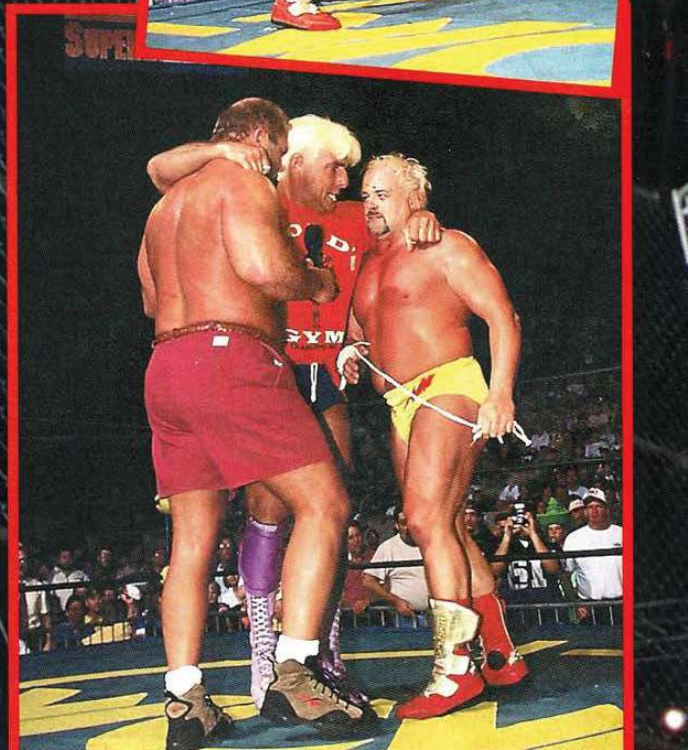
Does Brian Pillman really respect Kevin Sullivan? The only thing we know for sure is that Pillman is no longer a member of the Four Horsemen following his bizarre actions in this "respect match." The object of this strap match was to force the opponent to say "I respect you," but in reality, Pillman said it about a minute into the bout and simply left the ring. Shocked by Pillman's apparent cowardice, Arn Anderson came out of the dressing room to take Pillman's place in the match to try and salvage Horseman pride. After several minutes of wild brawling, Ric Flair ran out and begged these two legends to end their feud. What the "Nature Boy" wants, he apparently gets: Sullivan and Anderson shook hands, vowing to destroy Hulkamania rather than each other.

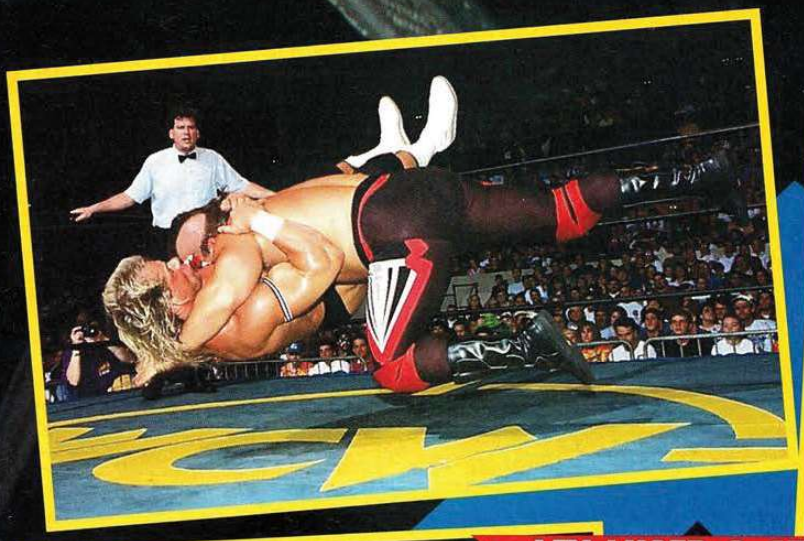
RESULT: Kevin Sullivan won when Pillman said he respected him.

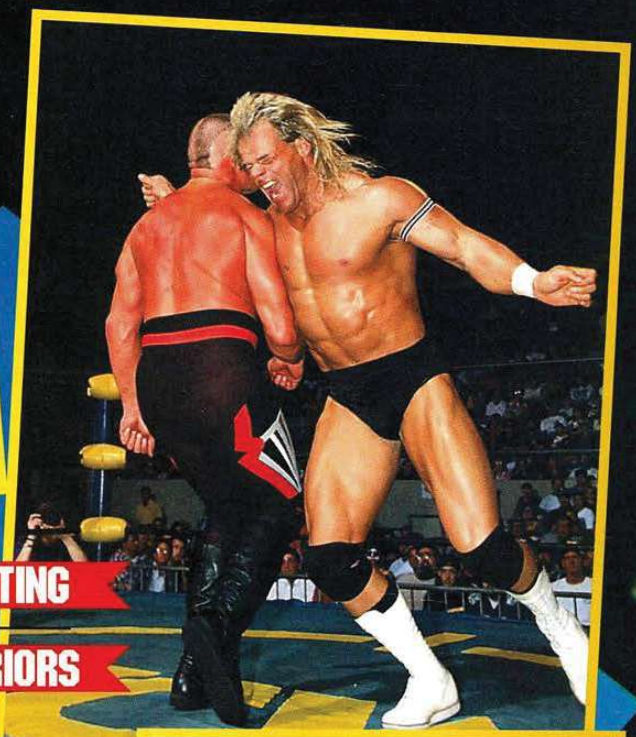




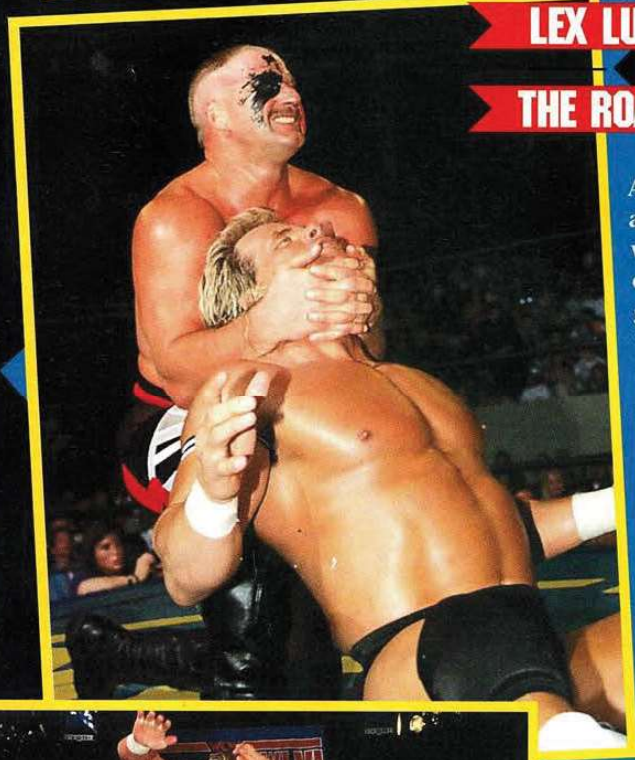






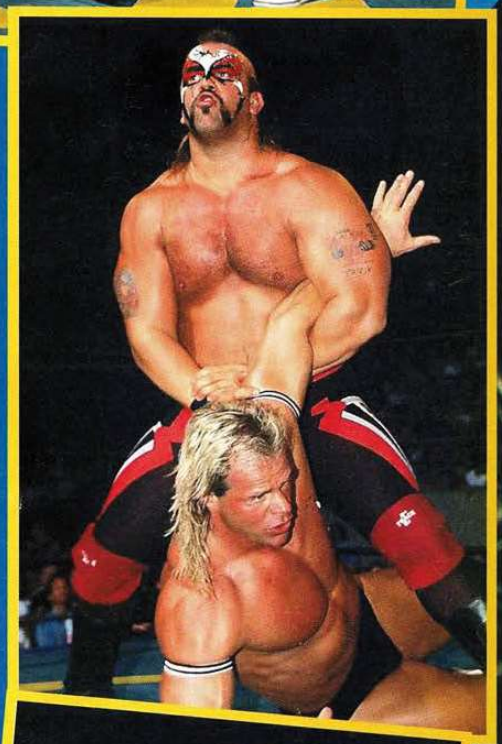


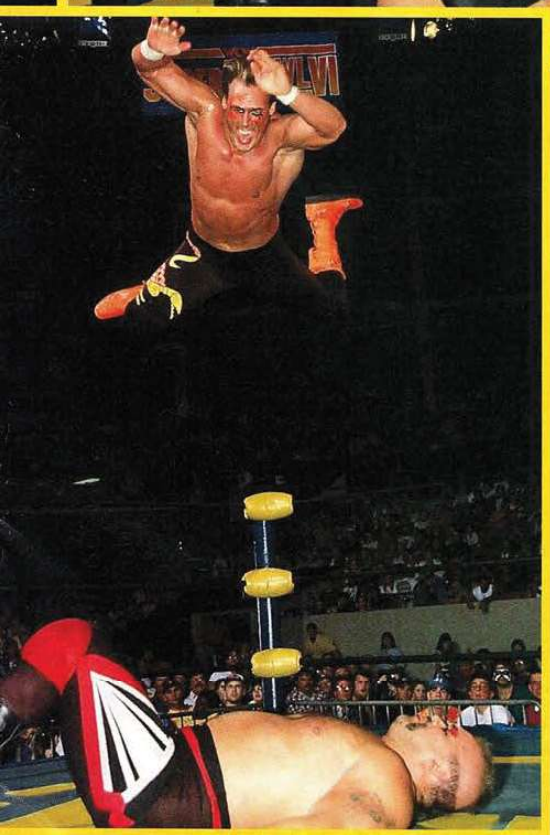
LEX LUGER & STING VS THE ROAD WARRIORS

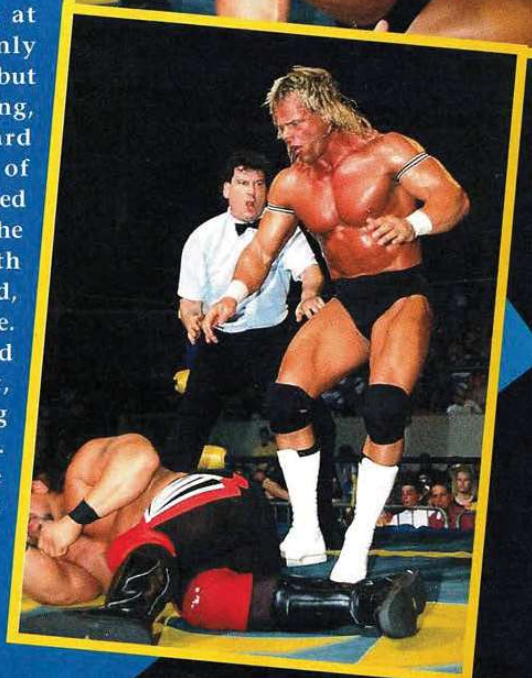


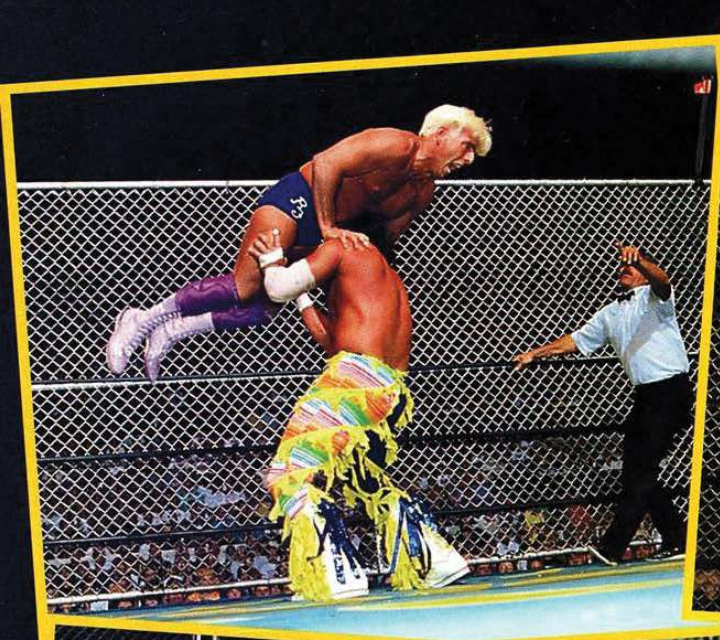
Animal and Hawk were seething mad and chomping at the bit to gain revenge on the World Tag Team Champions, but at the beginning of the match it appeared that Luger didn't want to get anywhere near the ring to face his muscular adversaries. Reluctantly, Luger did tag in to face Animal, and the result was one of the most stunning tag team bouts in recent memory. It was vintage Roadies again as Animal and Hawk tried everything at their disposal to not only defeat Luger and Sting, but injure them as well. Sting, although he took a hard pounding at the hands of Harlem Heat earlier, battled brilliantly, even besting the slightly larger Hawk with power moves. In the end, the result was inconclusive. The four superstars battled to a double countout, allowing Luger and Sting to escape with their belts. Is their pride, and more particularly Sting's pride intact as well?

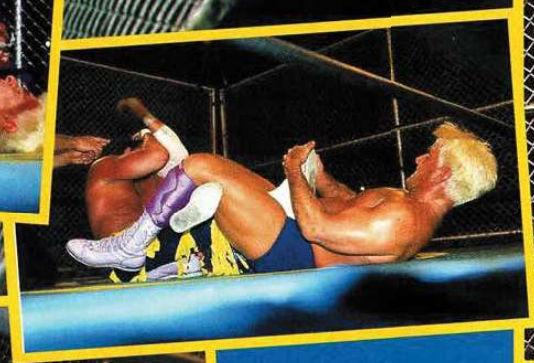
RESULT: Double Countout

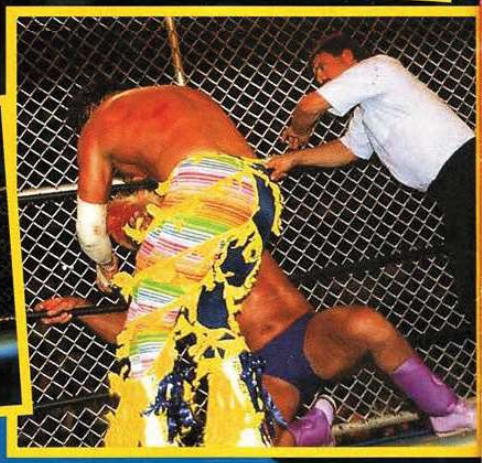


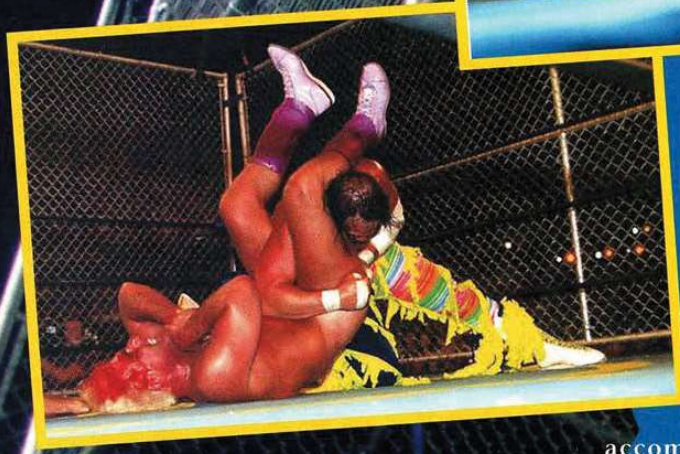


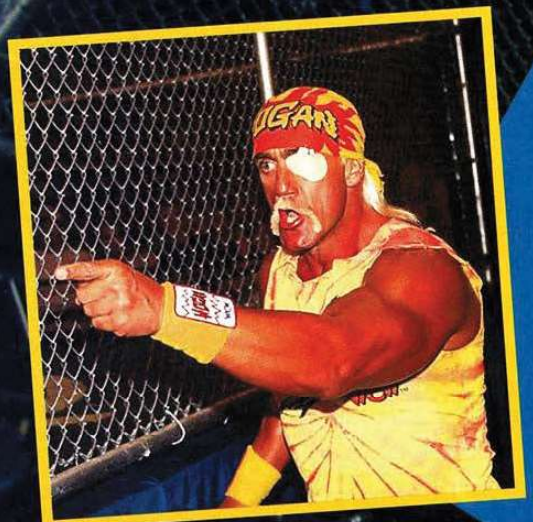








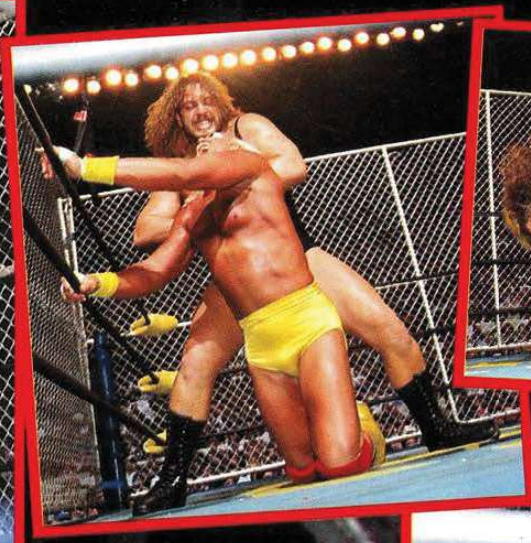


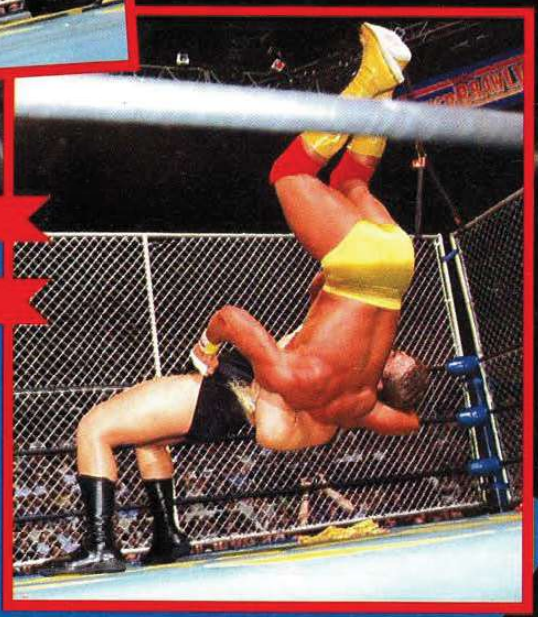


RIC FLAIR VS RANDY SAVAGE

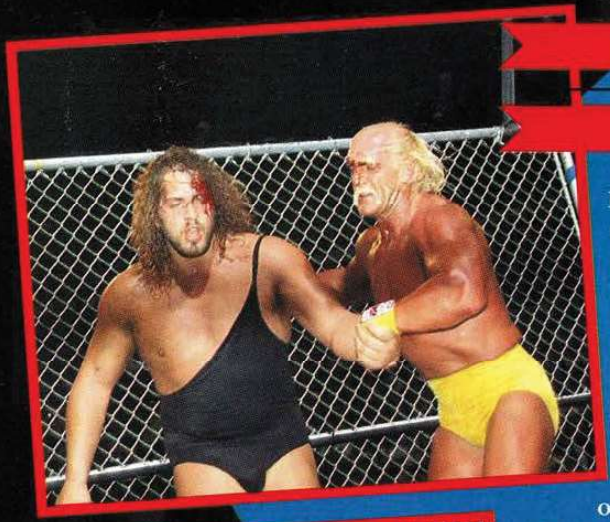
In the history books, it will read that at SuperBrawl VI, Ric Flair defeated Randy Savage in a steel cage match to win the WCW World title for an unprecedented 13th time. What matters most to virtually everyone is that this was the night that Elizabeth, Savage's former wife, viciously and cruelly turned against him! Savage came to the ring accompanied by Elizabeth, while Flair had Woman in his corner. Most fans expected Woman to try to get involved one way or another, but ELIZABETH? Savage took control early and often, and jumped at Flair from the top of the cage in one of the most thrilling maneuvers in WCW history. Once again, Savage cut Flair's face on the sharp cage, and it appeared that Flair was having a rough match. Late in the action, Woman, true to form, tried to throw powder into Savage's eyes, but missed badly. Incredibly, Elizabeth ran over to the open cage door and handed Flair her high-heeled shoe! Flair pushed the heel deep into Savage's eye and scored the pinfall! Hogan came running out to ensure there would be no post match celebration from Flair and his cronies. His accusing look said it all. Why, Liz, why? "I took half of everything Randy had," said Elizabeth on the following night's WCW Monday Nitro. "But this time, I took the one thing in the world that meant more than anything to him: The WCW World Heavyweight Championship." Hell hath no fury like a woman scored, but there's no fury like Woman and Elizabeth combined!

RESULT: Ric Flair pinned Randy Savage



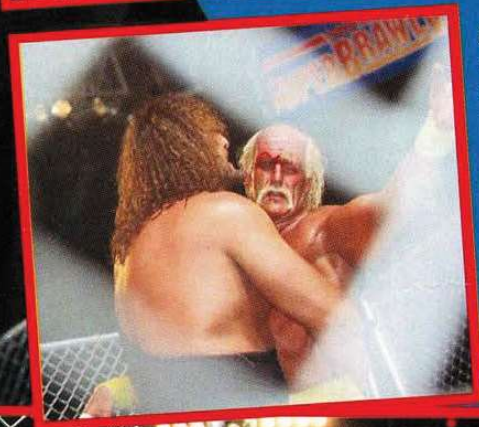


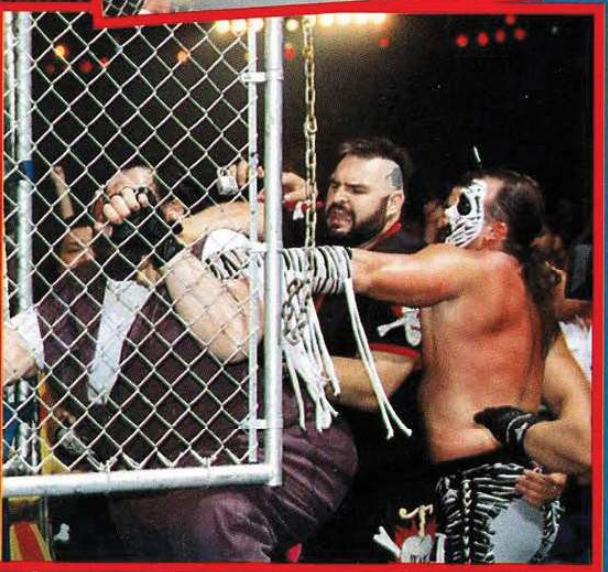
HULK HOGAN VS THE GIANT



In the second of this double-cage main event, the Hulkster craved a clean victory over his 7'4" second-generation foe, and he got it ... and a whole lot more! Andre's legacy proved to be an incredible obstacle for Hogan, pummeling the legendary star with chokes, slams and kicks. With both men bleeding profusely from the wounds the cage had caused, Hogan battled back to ram the Giant into the steel cage, and finally slam his huge adversary. Hogan followed up with not one but THREE legdrops, but even that was not enough to floor the Giant. The two huge men then battled all the way to the top of the cage, but it was Hogan who was able to shake off the Giant's attempts to hold him back and escape the cage to score the stirring victory! After the final bell, every member of the Dungeon of Doom ran to the cage: Zodiac, Meng, Hugh Morrus, Shark, Kevin Sullivan, One Man Gang, Barbarian. Armed with a chair, Hogan blasted all of them and kept them at bay! When the 650-pound Loch Ness stormed to the cage, the other members of the DOD held him back. Good move, because even that monster likely would not have defeated the immortal Hogan in one of his best performances ever!

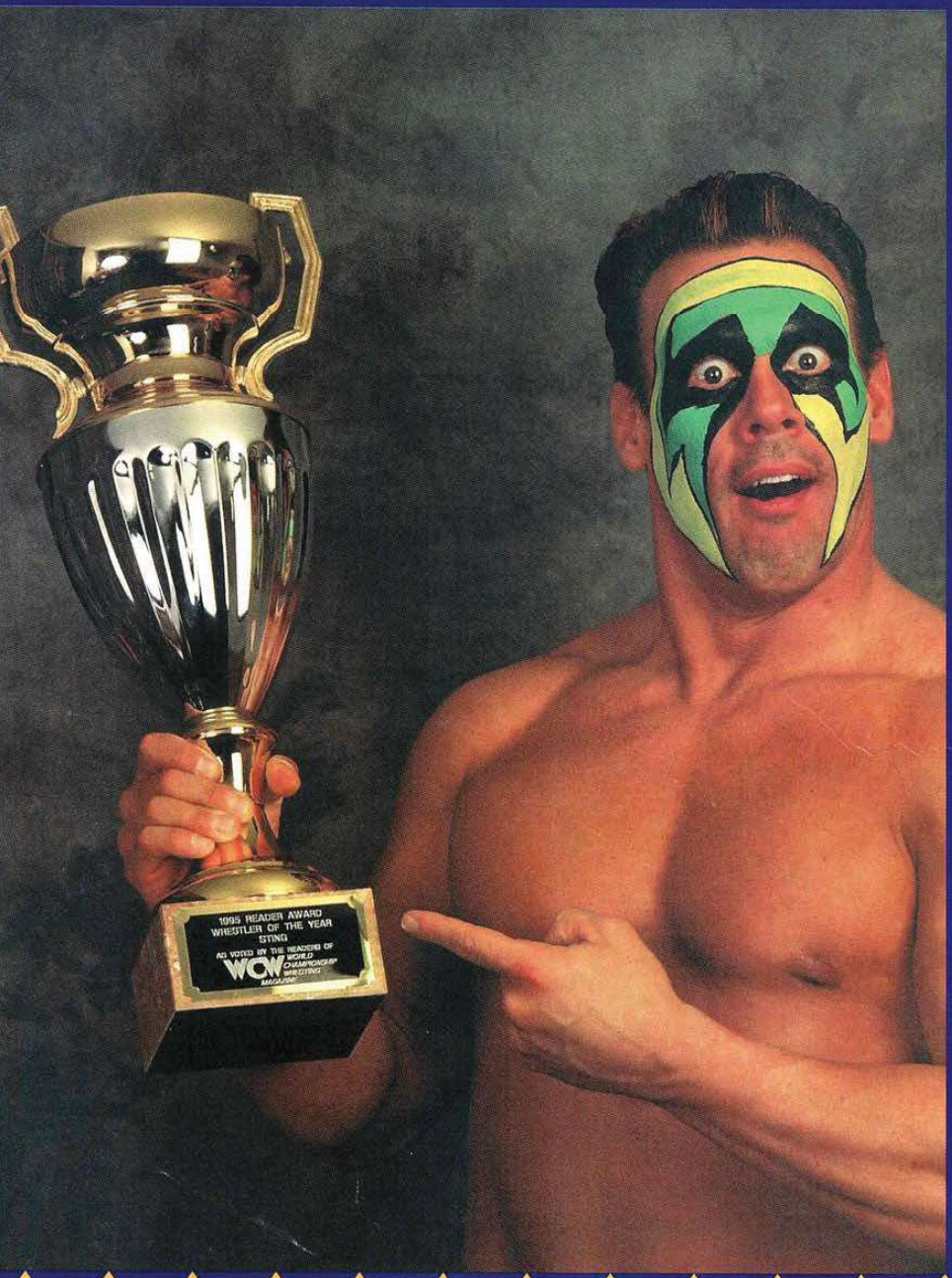
RESULT: Hulk Hogan won when he was the first man to exit the cage.





1995 Reader Aw

The battle for the 1995 Reader Awards was the most competitive ever. Ever since the curta question on everybody's lips was who had won. As 1000's of votes arrived in the mail and via the computer net fans love World Championship Wrestling. So without further ado let me introduce you to the first two winners. 1995's Wrestler of the Year is Sting and for the second year in a row, Bobby "The Brain" Heenan is the fan's cho



STING
1995 WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

"Who me? You're kidding. Wow, I just can't believe it!"

This was Sting's reaction to the news that the fans had voted for him as 1995's top wrestler.

"I am truly amazed. I felt that 1995 was one of the best years in my career. Winning the U.S. title and then guiding WCW to victory over New Japan being the two highlights. I truthfully never expected to win this award though with all the stars in WCW, particularly with guys like Hulk Hogan, Randy Savage and Ric Flair around. The competition and depth of talent has never been greater, so to win in view of all that competition makes this the most valuable one so far in my career. And coming from the fans just makes it all the more important. Thank you all and just watch me go. 1996 will be the year of the Stinger, I promise you that. Howwwwllllll!"

Not everyone was enthused with Sting's victory, especially Jimmy Hart.

The "Mouth" told us, "Sting is only the winner by default. Last year's was won by Hulk Hogan. And who was his manager, me. If I had of stayed with the Hulkster he would have won the award again. Ha, ha, ha, ha! Hulkster you're nothing without me and Sting you're only a somebody because of your alliance with Lex. Jimmy Hart is the real power in WCW and talking of which where's my Manager of the Year award, punk!"

FINAL STANDINGS
Winner — Sting
2nd — Hulk Hogan
3rd — Randy Savage
4th — Ric Flair
5th — Johnny B. Badd

ards

n came down on 1995 the orks one thing became clear the

e as top announcer.

BOBBY "THE BRAIN" HEENAN
1995 ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR

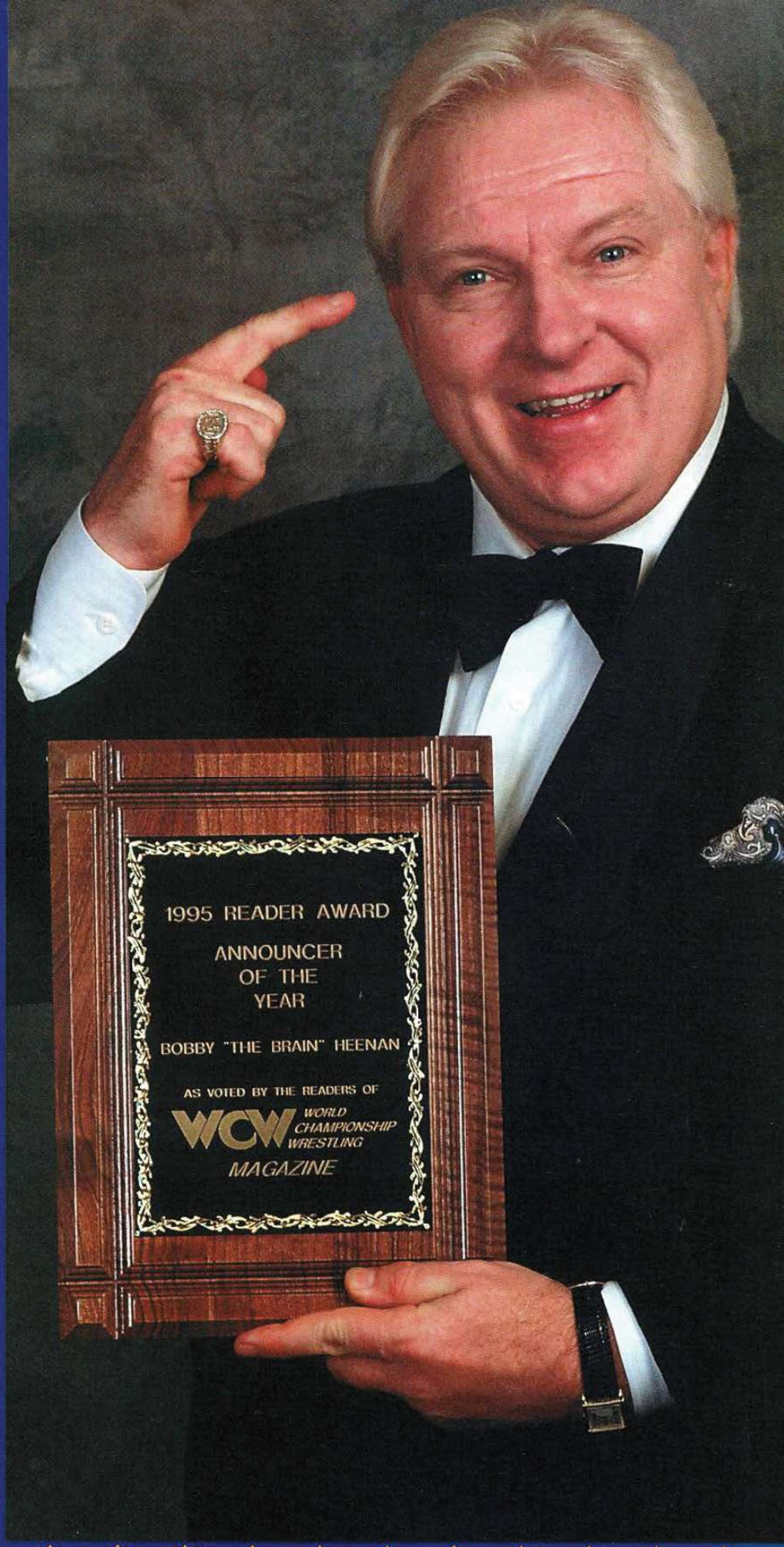
"Mr. Heenan's been expecting your call, I'll put you straight through."

It is unbelievable. The more we have to deal with "The Brain" the more his arrogance still amazes us.

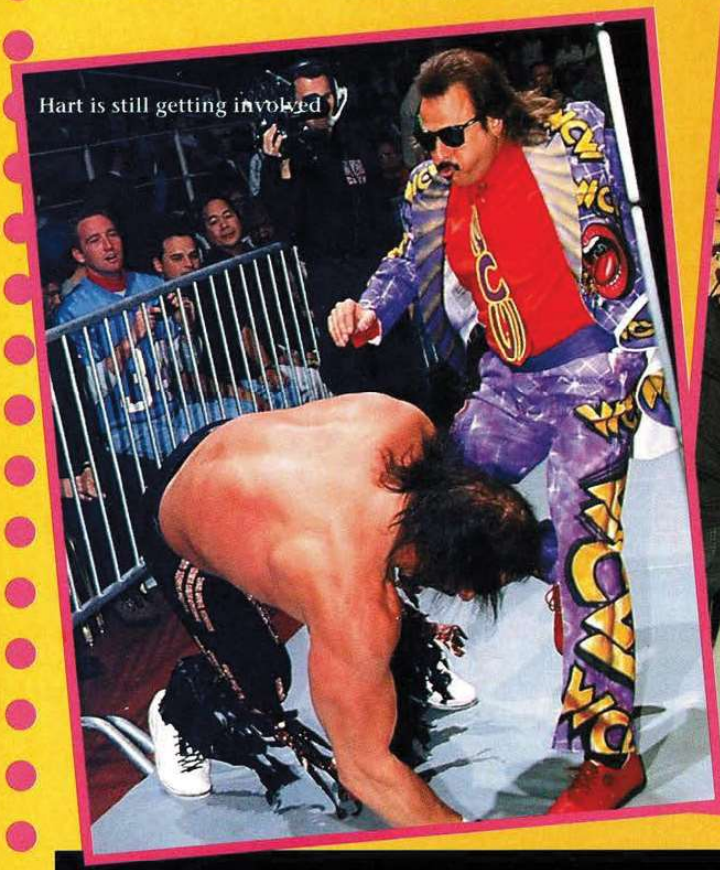
"I won't say I told you so, because that's the sort of tired old cliche you would hear from Tony Schiavone. Not of course, that he has, or ever will be in this situation. After all as stupid as the Humanoids are, they could never vote for a man, whose dress sense makes Disco Inferno look futuristic. I won't say it's an honor to receive this. It isn't. After all would you be honored if you won a writing award when all the competition were still in the first grade? That's how I feel. In the echelons of announcing, there is Bobby Heenan and then there is no one. The message is simple and the fans have spoken. Bischoff, Schiavone, Tenay, McNuggets and especially you Rhodes ... watch, listen and learn. You're working with the best in the business, you never know you may just learn something."

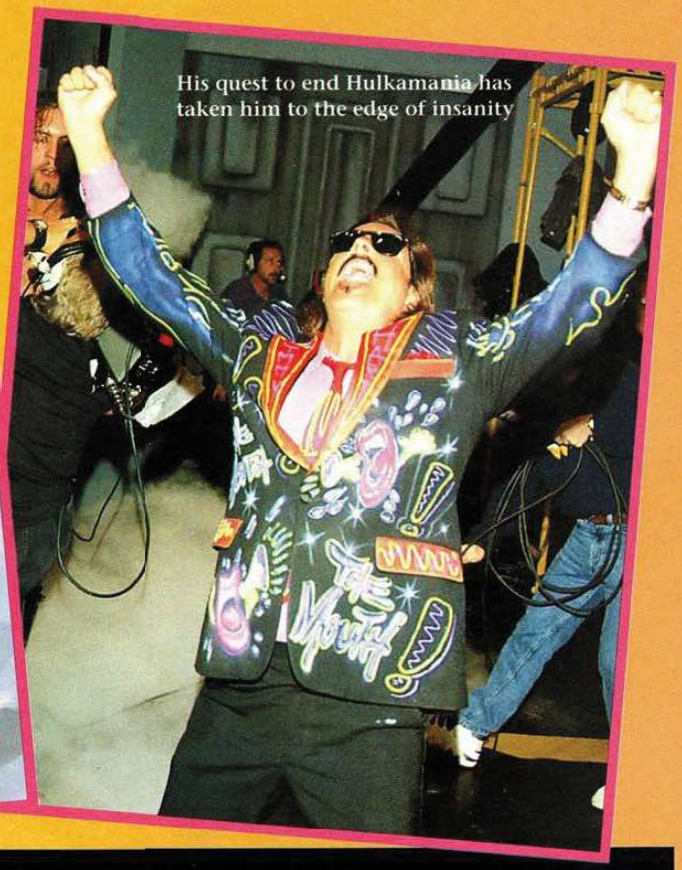
Runner-up Tony Schiavone was magnanimous in defeat. "Last month I told you all about my admiration for "The Brain's" talent behind a microphone. But I also told you how arrogant and self-centered he was as well. Why should you be surprised by his attitude. Congratulations to you Bobby."

FINAL STANDINGS
Winner — Bobby "The Brain" Heenan
2nd — Tony Schiavone
3rd — Dusty Rhodes
4th — Eric Bischoff
5th — Steve McMichael



JIMMY HART holds the key to end HULKAMANIA


Hart is still getting involved


His quest to end Hulkamania has taken him to the edge of insanity

"Taskmaster" Kevin Sullivan sat alone in the conference room inside WCW's corporate headquarters one mid-March afternoon. He was reclining with a soft drink (contrary to public belief, Kevin Sullivan does not drink the blood of young children) in one hand and a remote control in the other. The TV was blaring, but, surprisingly, not with the ever-familiar tones of Eric Bischoff, Tony Schiavone, Dusty Rhodes, Chris Cruise, Bobby "The Brain" Heenan, or any of the other WCW announcers echoing off the 12th-floor room.

Nope, Sullivan, instead, was switching back and forth between spring training baseball games, courtesy of WCW/Turner Broadcasting's elaborate cable hook-up. He watched Atlanta Braves action, then switched to the Chicago Cubs, then moved to a Boston Red Sox game.

Sullivan seemed at home with the national pastime and — believe it or not — actually appeared friendly as WCW Magazine approached.

"Come in; don't be shy," Sullivan said, much to our amazement. "I'm watching baseball and everyone enjoys baseball, right?"

Sure, we answered, then quickly added, 'But why are you watching this, instead of tapes of, say, Hulk Hogan, "Macho Man" Randy Savage, Brother Buti or Sting?'

"It's like this," Sullivan began, "I've seen enough of those morons in the ring, and Jimmy Hart is working on the Master Plan to eliminate them as we speak. So I, instead, am studying this sport. I can learn a lot about strategy from a brilliant mind such as Bobby Cox, (Atlanta's manager). I also can pick up things not to do from the Cubs; they — like

Hogan —are nothing but a bunch of losers. And the Red Sox, well, they intrigue me, so I always watch them."

"Yep, baseball will — although you might not see it right now — help me with my long-term goal. And I think you know quite well what that goal is? The elimination of Hulk Hogan."

Sullivan's hatred for Hogan has become epic, World Series-like. He will, as he freely admits, go to all extremes to end the reign of Hulkamania.

"Hulk Hogan has been able to slip through so many cracks in recent years, but, the time is coming soon when he won't be able to anymore because there will be just too many people out to get him," Sullivan said. "Then, the only way for him to survive will be to come and join the Dungeon of Doom. Plus, he can't tell me that someday he and "Macho Man" Randy Savage aren't going to have a problem."

"Randy Savage is a loose cannon, whether Hulk Hogan wants to admit that fact or not. That's why Randy Savage needs to join the Dungeon of Doom. In fact, one of these days I'm going to give him the chance to say 'Yeah' or 'Nay' to joining. His personality would be perfect for the Dungeon, and I think he knows that quite well."

So, Kevin, have you had any meetings with Savage?

"Uh ... nothing I can talk about right now," he said, hesitating. "Things are quite fine these days in the Dungeon, thank you," Sullivan said. "We're re-grouping and, well, all I can say at this moment is, we've got some BIG surprises forthcoming. New faces, new names."

Who?

"Sorry, I can't say ... we can't let Hogan get prepared."

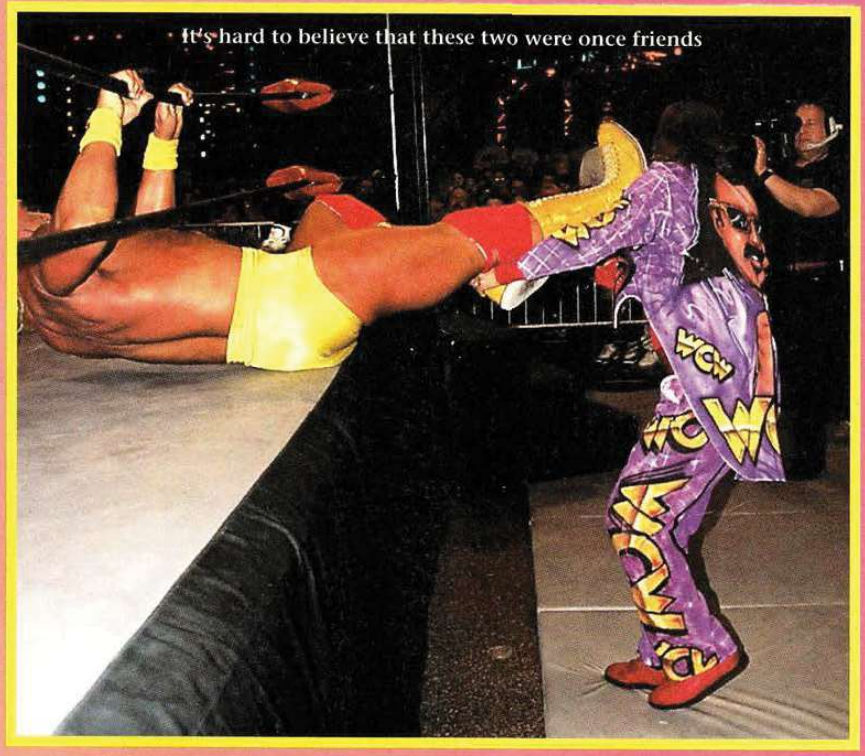
Sullivan's plot to stop Hulkamania was thrown for a loop by the appearance of Brother Booty, a Hogan surprise ally.

"He infiltrated our ranks. He was a spy and forever will live to regret that move," Sullivan snapped. "He was sent by Hogan which tells me one thing: that Hogan is afraid of the Dungeon."

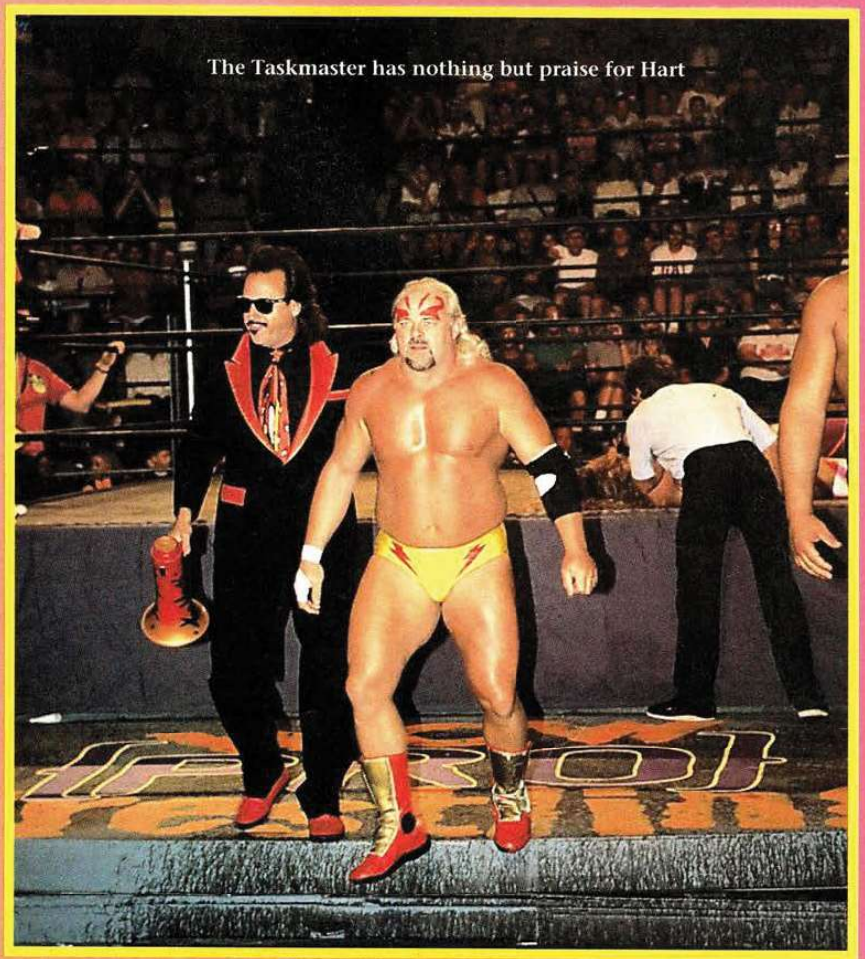
Sullivan said the key to stopping Hulkamania is so simple, so obvious, even though it comes in one of WCW's smallest figures: manager Jimmy Hart.

"Yep, Jimmy Hart is the most clever mind in professional wrestling ... and that will cause the fall of Hulkamania," Sullivan said. "He's been able to bring a war that was about to explode — between the Four Horseman and the Dungeon of Doom — to peace, so stopping Hulkamania should be no problem. After all, you've got to remember that Jimmy was Hogan's manager for some time — and knows everything about him.

"The common denominator in WCW is Jimmy Hart. Yep, the manager is the key ... just like in a baseball game."



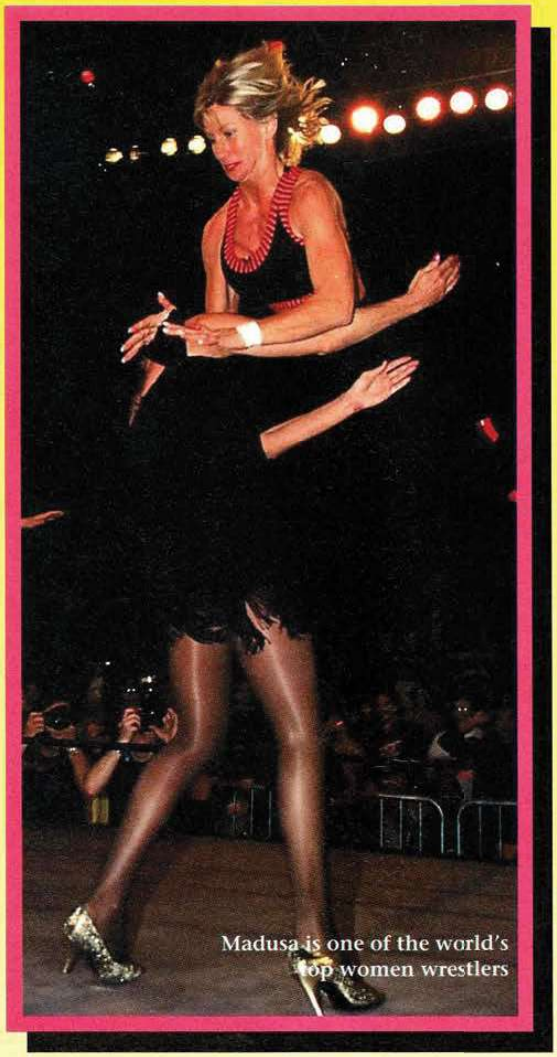
It's hard to believe that these two were once friends



The Taskmaster has nothing but praise for Hart

MAD

SHE WALKED INTO THE RICHMOND COUNTY CIVIC CENTER IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA FOR MONDAY NITRO ON DECEMBER 18 AS ALUNDRA BLAYZE, THE REIGNING WWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION, ALBEIT WITHOUT A WWF CONTRACT.



Madusa is one of the world's top women wrestlers

She left the Richmond County Civic Center that evening as herself, Madusa, the sexy blonde-in-a-black leather outfit and, more importantly, a proud member of WCW. She had literally trashed the WWF's championship belt.

Yes, World Championship Wrestling also is where the big girls play.

"I really don't know why I did what I did that Monday night," Madusa said one afternoon in early-March from her Florida home. "Basically, it was a last minute decision to go out there with the (WWF's) belt and do what I did. It wasn't something I thought about doing for a while. In fact, I didn't even talk to WCW officials beforehand about it."

Madusa, you see, was employed by the WWF four days earlier. She was their champion, but informed that the company was not going to renew her contract. Madusa quickly — and happily — returned to WCW.

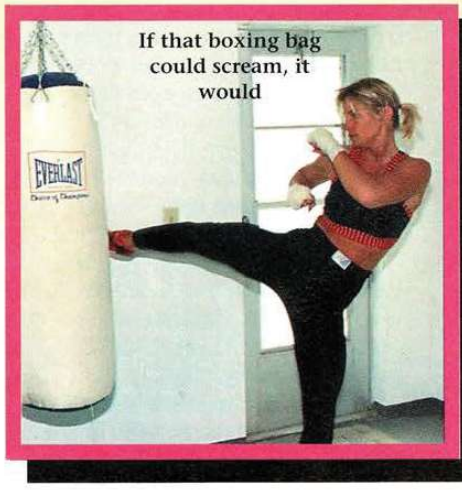
"WCW officials wanted me there that Monday Nitro just in case they had time to introduce me," Madusa recalls. "I was in the locker room changing when I saw that I still had the WWF's championship belt — and realized I was still their champion. But, I didn't care; I was very angry with them. So, when WCW officials said I was going to be introduced by Eric Bischoff, I just got a wild hair and figured, 'What the heck!' Steve McMichael's and Eric Bischoff's faces were a picture and I thought Bobby Heenan was going to have a heart attack when I came out with the belt, it was a true Kodak moment. I then said exactly what I felt the WWF championship meant as far as representing me."

"I'm sure some people were looking at what I did quite positively and I'm sure there were other people who were quite upset with what I did. But, the bottom line is, everyone does not understand what goes on behind the scenes in the wrestling world; people don't know what is said, how contracts are done, etc."

She added: "I can only bet that, when (WWF owner) Vince McMahon saw me out on Nitro with the WWF Woman's championship, he got angry and thought to himself, 'How could she do this to me, especially after all I've done for her?' However, I think what he instead should have been thinking was, 'What hasn't he done for her?' I'm sure he has a few choice words for me and probably doesn't respect what I did, but, I'm sure — between him and I — he understands the reasoning why I did it."

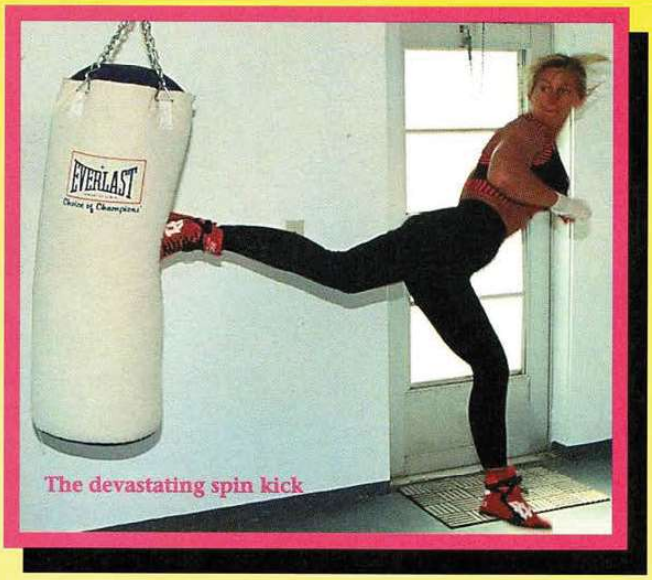
Madusa, as Blayze, spent two years in the WWF, most of the time as its champion.

"When people think of WCW, they think of a more violent organization, one with a lot of action, one where you never know what's going to happen next. To me, that's exciting and that's why



If that boxing bag could scream, it would

USA



The devastating spin kick

... and Kisska

Meet Ewo ...

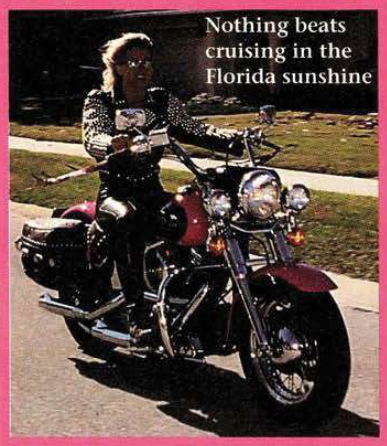
I fit in here better (than in the WWF)," Madusa said. "I think women get more respect in WCW than in WWF. There's a lot more to do in WCW than WWF; in fact, that goes for men as well women."

"I feel my talents finally will be used to their fullest potential, as they were during my first stint here."

Madusa, you might recall, spent nearly two years in WCW — mostly as the valet for Rick Rude and the Dangerous Alliance — before leaving for the independents and then to the WWF following a dispute with a since-departed WCW executive concerning her contract. She is now in her 11th year in the sport, which includes time in the now-defunct AWA and in Japan.

Madusa predicts she has at least another five years as an active grappler, then she plans to hang up her boots in the All-Japan Women's Pro Wrestling Federation's traditional 10-bell retirement ceremony, the first American woman to do so.

"I don't regret anything that I've done in wrestling, nothing at all. I've always tried to better myself every way possible. I think I'm at the pinnacle of my career right now. I feel I'm the best out there and am ready for all competition," Madusa said, "such as Japanese superstars Bull Nakano, Manami Toyota & Akira Hokuto."



Nothing beats cruising in the Florida sunshine

Madusa's Harley was custom built

"I have a lot of mixed feelings about the WWF," she said. "I did not like the way they settled things with me. It wasn't a bad company, but, when it came down to certain things, well, that's another story. For instance, my experience; I feel I can wrestle as well as a lot of the guys. And my experience wasn't paid on par with the guys. It was absolutely humiliating."

Madusa, a champion in several organizations, has perfected any number of holds, namely suplexes. She is a martial arts expert who is aggressive, agile and quick. Her kicks are as powerful as anyone's.

"Sure, someday I might want to return to managing, or someday become a broadcaster, but, as I've said before, I'm a wrestler first off ... and I want to prove to the world that I am the best around. And I can only do that by becoming the WCW Women's Champion — not some other, inferior organization's so-called champion," she said.

AWAY FROM THE RING

Madusa's wild action inside the ring certainly spills into the real world. She enjoys sky-diving, scuba-diving and driving her Harley-Davidson throughout Florida. In fact, she even does her own bike repairs, including work on customizing a Springer.

"Nothing beats cruising past the Florida palm trees while riding my bike with the wind rushing through my hair," she said. "Florida is a great place to live. People pay to come here on vacation, but I'm lucky; I live here."

Madusa loves sushi

The lady lives live in the fast lane

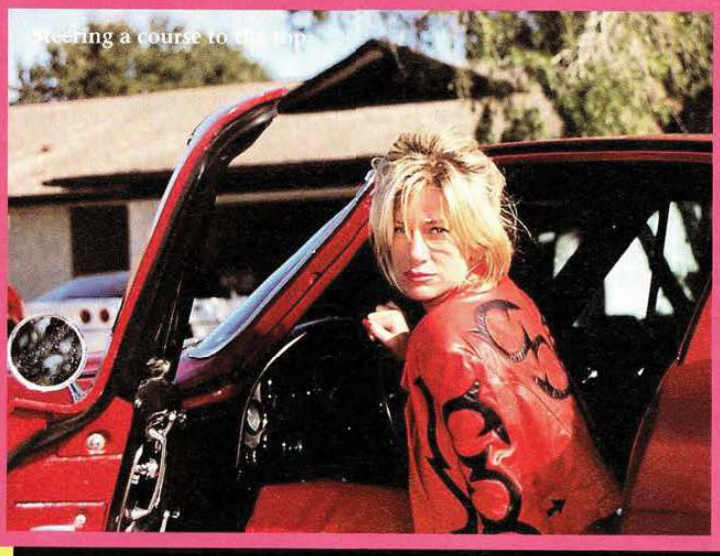
Madusa is a great cook and she really enjoys it; her specialties include Thai cuisine and sushi.

She has recently tried her hand at acting and will appear in the upcoming movie 'Shoot Fighter II,' which she choreographed a fight scene and, naturally, did her own stunts.

Madusa is a self-described "Corvette junkie." She has owned three different models in the past: a '67 show car, a '72 and a '90 convertible. She told us, "If I was to describe myself as a car, it would be a Corvette. It's fast, stylish and looks great, a real American classic."

But it isn't just cars in her garage

Not many men can punch as hard as Madusa



Steering a course to the top

Relaxation time for Parador

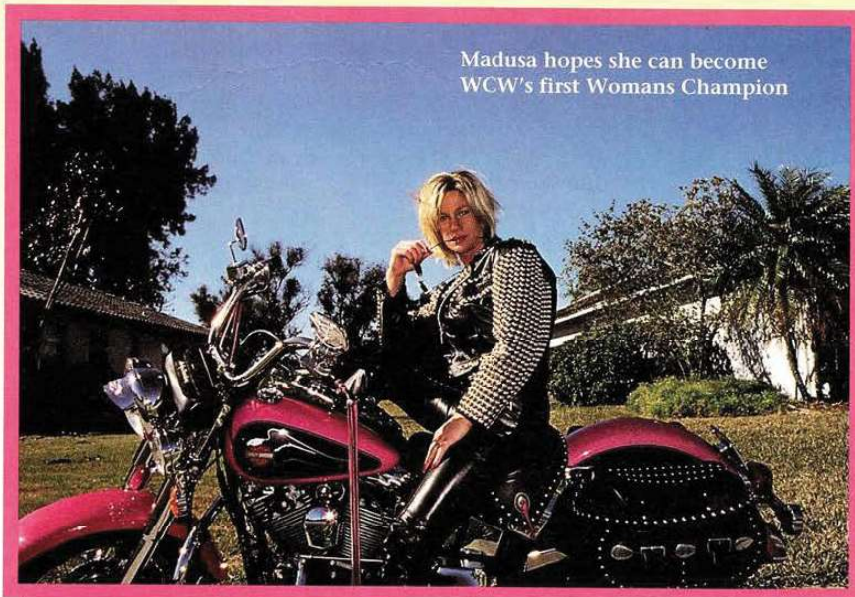
at home. She also has a make-shift gymnasium, with a boxing bag, gloves and ropes (for jumping), along other things. And we can attest that she knows how to punch. We watched her work out on the bag for twenty minutes and have to confess we haven't seen many men who can hit it that hard.

"The boxing is good stress relief," said Madusa, who dons the gloves twice-a-week. However like all strenuous activities it is very important that you stretch out and warm up properly."

"When I have free time, which is so rare, I enjoy going out and listening to a good rock band. Some of my favorites are Fight, Candlebox and Testament.

"I'm not married, but do have a 'special someone' in my life. I don't have any kids yet, but want a lot ... a lot of boys."

In the absence of kids Madusa spends her time spoiling the animals in her own personal menagerie. She has two cats (named Ewok and Phantom), a keesh hound (Kisska), and a green-winged macaw (Parador).



Madusa hopes she can become WCW's first Womans Champion

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KEEP IT UP

I love your magazine it's the best that I've ever seen. WCW Monday Nitro is truly the best show on TV. Every week you get three of four main event matches. My favorite match so far was Hulk Hogan against Sting. I still wish I knew what would have happened if the Dungeon had not interfered and I eagerly await a rematch.

Finally, I think Steve McMichael is a great commentator. He always puts Heenan in his place and has something interesting to say.

Keep up the fine work.

Addie Arlene Harmon, Boone, NC

Pen Pals

I like Hulk Hogan, Lex Luger and Sting and would like to hear from WCW fans with similar interest.

Michael Perrone, 9 Egerton Ave
Warburton, Cheshire WA13 9TD
ENGLAND

Help I'm about to go crazy! I love wrestling but in the small town I live I think I must be the only fanatic. My favorite wrestlers are Sting and Alex Wright and I'm 13. Can someone please write soon.

Marsha Gillett, 460 Caney Branch
Bryson City, USA

My favorite wrestler is "Macho Man" and I'm 11. I'd like to find a pen pal, so please write to:

Jason Worthington, 7984 Lake Shore Drive
McCalla, AL35111, USA

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Robert Fortner, Chamblee, GA

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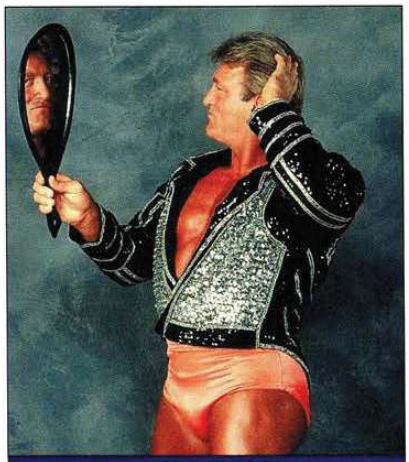


MISSED

I know it was quite a while ago now, but I still cannot believe how viciously the Horsemen attacked Paul Orndorff.

I hope Mr. Wonderful will return to the ring soon and takes immediate revenge against his tormentors.

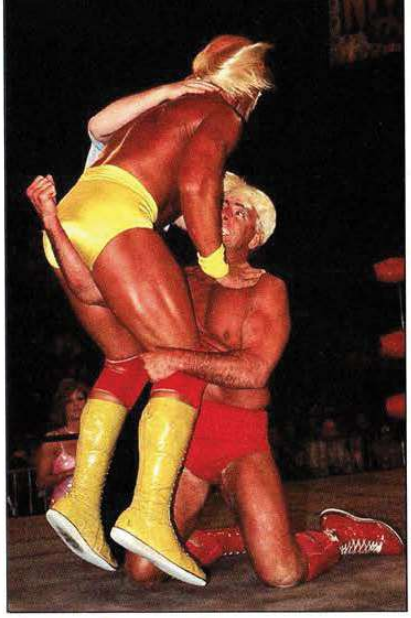
Hurry back Paul, I miss you and I'm sure you will be as wonderful as ever on your return.

B Grey, Orlando, FL

Road to the top

I'm glad Hawk and Animal are back in WCW. Hawk is a great wrestler, but it is only as one half of the Road Warriors that his true greatness can be seen. With the range of maneuvers at their disposal and their sheer power I am sure it is only a matter of time before they once again are wearing the gold.

M Thompson, Corinth, MS



dirtier than ever

I enjoy watching WCW and thoroughly enjoyed SuperBrawl. However Ric Flair is really getting on my nerves. He can never win without cheating and recently his tactics have been completely over the top. Surely WCW is not blind to this? Why is nothing being done? I sometimes wonder if all the referees and officials have not been bribed by him.

S Smythe, St. Pauli, Germany

WELL DONE LIZ

I would just like to congratulate Miss Elizabeth for finally having the courage to stand up to Randy Savage. Now that she is with the greatest wrestler of all time "The Nature Boy" I am sure she can put all the previous lows behind her.

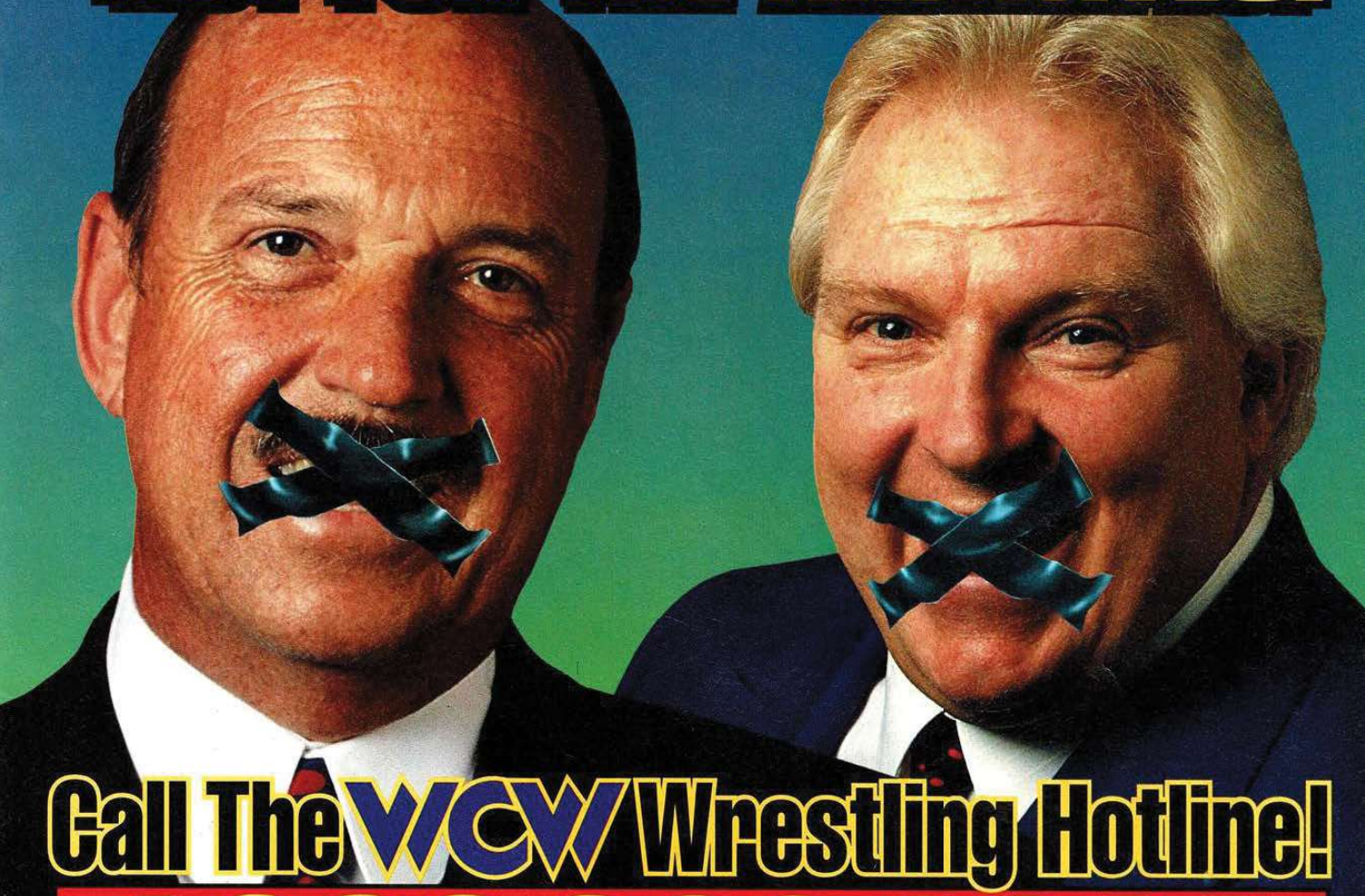
Alison Lotocki, Jackson Hts, NY

KONAN

I'm glad Konan has decided to come to WCW, where the big boys play. I really enjoyed seeing you wrestle guys like One Man Gang and Devon Storm. What really excites me though is the incredible range of maneuvers you possess. I am sure you will be a worthy US Champion for a long time to come.

Michael Jezzyhausk, Kissimmee, FL

GET THE INFO THAT'S TOO HOT FOR THE AIRWAVES!



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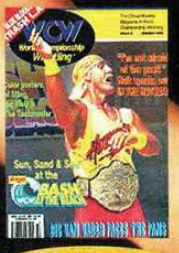
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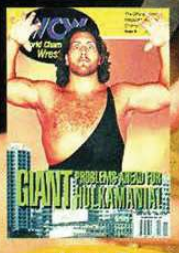

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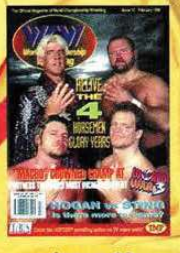

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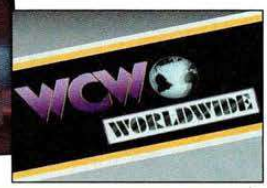

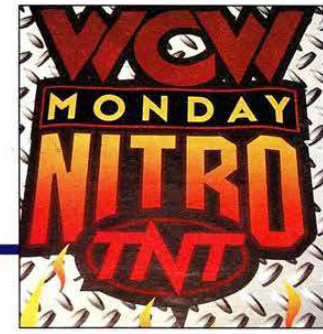

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ALBUQUERQUE KASA, AMARILLO KFDA, ANCHORAGE KYES, ASHLAND/ MANSFIELD WBP, AUGUSTA WFXG, BALTIMORE WBFF, BILOXI/GULFPORT WLOX, BIRMINGHAM WTTO, BLUEFIELD WVVA, BOSTON WSBK, BOWLING GREEN WGRB, BRANSON KO5JQ, BURLINGTON/ PLATTSBURG WWIN, CHARLESTON WTAT, CHARLESTON/HUNTING WVAH, CHARLOTTE WFVT, CHARLOTTE WHKY, CHATTANOOGA WDSI, CHICAGO WCIU, CLEVELAND/CANTON WOAC, COLORADO SPRINGS KOAA, COLUMBIA WOLO, COLUMBUS WRBL, COLUMBUS WWHO, COLUMBUS/ TUPELO WTVA, DALLAS/FT WORTH KDFI, DAYTON WRGT, DETROIT WDIV, DOTHAN WTVY, EL PASO KJLF, ERIE WJET, FLORENCE WBTW, FORT WAYNE WFFT, FRESNO/VISALIA KAIL, GREENWOOD/GREENVILLE WXVT, GREENVILLE/SPARTANBURG WSPA, HARLINGEN KGBT, HARRISBURG/ LANCASTER WLYH, HOUSTON KRIV, HUNTSVILLE WYLE, INDIANAPOLIS WTTV, JACKSON WJTV, JACKSON WMTU, JACKSONVILLE WNFT, JOHNSTOWN/ALTOONA WWCP, KANSAS CITY KSMO, KNOXVILLE WKXT, LAKE CHARLES KVHP, LAS VEGAS KUPN, LITTLE ROCK/PINE BLFF KASN, LOS ANGELES KNBC,LOUISVILLE WFTE, LUBBOCK KJTV, MACON WMGT, MASON CITY KIMT, MEMPHIS WHBQ, MEMPHIS WLMT, MIAMI/ FT LAUDERDALE WBFS, MILWAUKEE WDJT, MINNEAPOLIS KMSP, MOBILE PENSACOLA WEAR, MONROE/EL DORADO KNOE, MONTGOMERY WCOV, NASHVILLE WXMT, NASHVILLE/HOPKINSVILLE WKAG, NEW ORLEANS WUPL, NEW YORK WCBS, NORFOLK WTVZ, OKLAHOMA CITY KOCB, ORLANDO WRBW, PHILADELPHIA WGBS, PHOENIX KTVK, PITTSBURGH WPTT, PORTLAND KEBN, PROVIDENCE WPRI, RALEIGH/DURHAM WKFT, SAN ANTONIO KABB, SANTA BARARA KSTB, SALISBURY WBOC, SAVANNAH WJCL, SYRACUSE WSYT, SHREVEPORT KTBS, ST LOUIS KDNL, TALLAHASSEE WCTV, TAMPA WTVT, TRI CITIES WKPT, UTICA WUPN, WACO/TEMPLE KCEN, WASHINGTON WDCA, W-B/SCRANTON PCTN, WEST PALM BEACH WTVX, WICHITA KWCH.

WCW PRO WRESTLING
ALBANY WSST, ALEXANDRIA KLAX, ATLANTA/LA GRANGE WGBN, BRANSON K05JQ, BUFFALO W58AV, BURLINGTON/PLATTSBURG WWIN, CHARLESTON WCIV, CHARLOTTE WFVT, CHARLOTTE/HICKORY WHKY, CHICAGO WCIU, CINCINATTI WBQC, CLEVELAND/AKRON WAKC, COLUMBUS WWHO, COLUMBUS WSWS, COLUMBUS TUPELO WCBI, DALLAS KDFI, EL PASO KJLF, EUGENE/ROSEBURG KROZ, FAYETTEVILLE WFAY, FLORENCE/MYRTLE BEACH WGSE, FT MYERS WSWF, FT WAYNE WFFT, GREENVILLE WFBC, HARLINGEN–SPANISH CLEARANCE KGBT, HATTIESBURG/LAUREL WHLT, HUNTSVILLE/DEC/FLO WYLE, INDIANAPOLIS WAV, JACKSONVILLE WNFT, KINGMAN KMOH, LOUISVILLE WBNA, MANCHESTER WMCH, MIAMI/FT LAUDERDALE WSVN, MILWAUKEE WVTV, MINNEAPOLIS KLGT, NASHVILLE WKZX, NASHVILLE WNAB, NASHVILLE/HOPKINSVILLE WKAG, NORFOLK/PORTSMOUTH WPEN, ORLANDO WRBW, PHOENIX KSAZ , PHOENIX KUSK, PORTLAND KEBN, RALEIGH/DURHAM WRDC, ROANOKE/ LYNCHBURG WSLS, SANTA BARBARA KSTB, SAVANNAH WTOC, SEATTLE/TACOMA KTZZ, SPOKANE KDQ, ST GEORGE KSGI, TAMPA/ST PETE/SAR WBSV, TAMPA WTTA, TOLEDO WWAP, WEST PALM BEACH WAQ.

WCW MAIN EVENT
ORLANDO WRBW.

CANADA

WCW WORLDWIDE
HALIFAX CJCH, LONDON CFPL, NORTH BAY CKNY, OTTAWA CJOH, PRINCE ALBERT CIPA, REGINA CKCK, SASKATOON CFQC, SAULT STE. MARIE CHBX, ST JOHN/MONCTON CKCW, SUDBURY CICI, SYDNEY/GL BAY CJCB, TIMMINS CITO, TORONTO CFTO, WHEATLEY CHWI, WINGHAM CKNX, WINNEPEG CKY, YORKTON CICC.

WCW MAIN EVENT
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE CHMI.

EUROPE

(Check local listings as times vary. All times GMT)

NITRO
TNT FRIDAY 7pm

LIVE EVENT CALENDAR

Check out our calendar to find out when WCW will be coming to your area. Cities, arenas and dates are subject to change, so please check before you make your plans.

APRIL

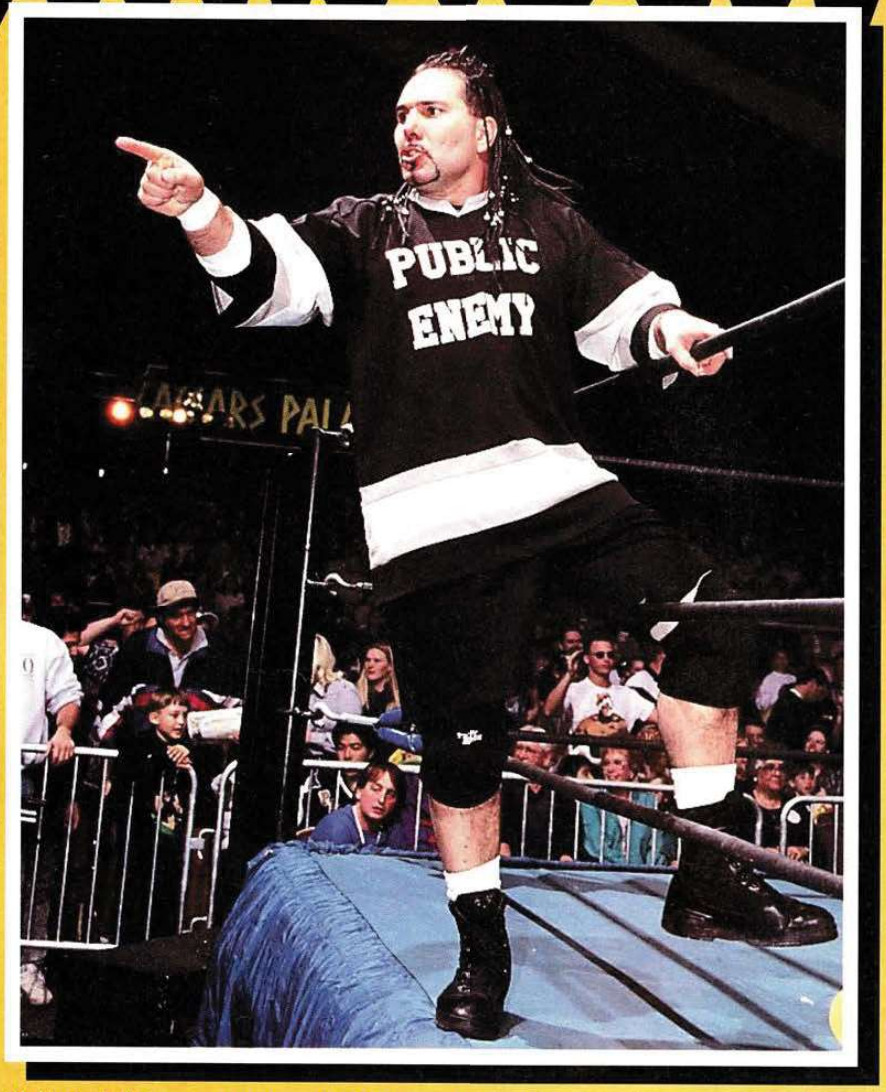
15 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Civic Center, Charleston, WV
17 TV Taping, Civic Center, Anderson, SC
20 TV Taping, Barton Coliseum, Little Rock, AR
21 TV Taping, Oman Arena, Jackson, TN
22 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Civic Center, Albany, GA
24 TV Taping, NW GA Trade Center, Dalton, GA
29 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Manatee Civic Center, Palmetto, FL

MAY

2 Begin TV Tapings in Orlando, FL
5 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Daytona Beach, FL

PUBLIC

Public Enemy — the upstart combo of "Flyboy" Rocco Rock and Johnny Grunge — arrived at the Bayfront Center in St. Petersburg, Fla., for SuperBrawl VI several hours early. They saw special ring announcer Michael Buffer in the distance as they approached their locker room and simultaneously shouted, 'Hey, boy! We're ready to rumble tonight — as always!' The duo then kicked open their locker room door, obviously showing they were pumped for the evening, and walked inside.



The ceremony WCW Magazine had witnessed was ... well, normal for the phenoms from Philadelphia.

Hey man, c'mon in," Grunge said, a surprisingly gracious host as he caught sight of us in the corridor. "You can have the first interview with Public Enemy since our arrival in WCW."

"Public Enemy doesn't play. Wrestling is not a game to us, even though WCW officials claim this is where the big boys play. Wrestling is our livelihood. Sure, it's fun, but, as we say, it's our livelihood. So we don't really care for that slogan," Grunge said.

Instead, the two live by a revised version: "Lawdy-dawdy, we like to party; we cause a lot of trouble and hurt everybody," Rock said, with a grin from ear to ear.

Grunge and Rock are South Philadelphia natives, having controlled the ever-tough streets of Swanson and Ritner. Each has a police rap-sheet as long as their near-6-foot frames. They have been educated in street-sense, not common sense.

"To run a corner, as we do, you've gotta have a lot of pull, a lot of stroke — and that's exactly what we have," Rock said, "and it's exactly what we're going to do in WCW. We've got a lot of tag teams here that we're just going to run right out of the organization."

Public Enemy joined the big-time (WCW) in January after a two-year stint with an East Coast-based federation.

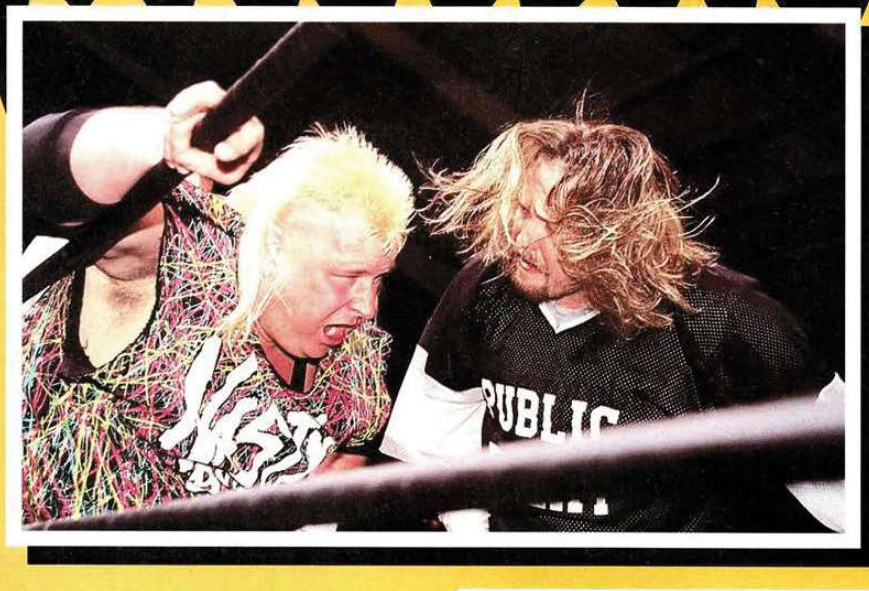
"We might lose a few battles over time, but we never lose a war," Rock said. "We're the type of team that can brawl, fight or simply wrestle. We are the true Timex team of WCW ... we take a lickin' and keep on tickin'. That's our phrase. No matter what happens to us, we always come back."

After all, a match with Public Enemy means chairs, tables, garbage can lids, frying pans, etc., etc, etc.

"We ran The Hood," Grunge began, "Nothing came into The Hood without our knowledge and nothing left The Hood without our knowledge. We've had to fight for everything in our lives, just like we're going to have to do in WCW."

Like, for instance, the free-for-all with the Nasty Boys.

ENEMY



Booker T of Harlem Heat, but PE certainly doesn't lack confidence.

"When they're on their knees, and we're standing up, then hey, we're a lot taller," Rock snapped. "How many times did Mike Tyson go into a fight and was smaller than his opponent? Probably every time. And he was the champion of the world ... just like we're going to be. And Ultimate Fighting Champion Ken Shamrock weighs about 115 pounds, yet easily beats 300-pounders. Size has nothing to do with it; it's what is inside your heart."

"The Nasty Boys ... hah! They claim to be from the streets of New York — yeah, right! The only thing they do well, besides eat, is, ride around the subway. They wouldn't last 10 minutes in Philly. They've been the tough guys of WCW for several years now, but only because there hasn't been anyone else around," Grunge said. "I look at them as the Beavis and Butthead of WCW and, more importantly, our stepping stone to brighter things."

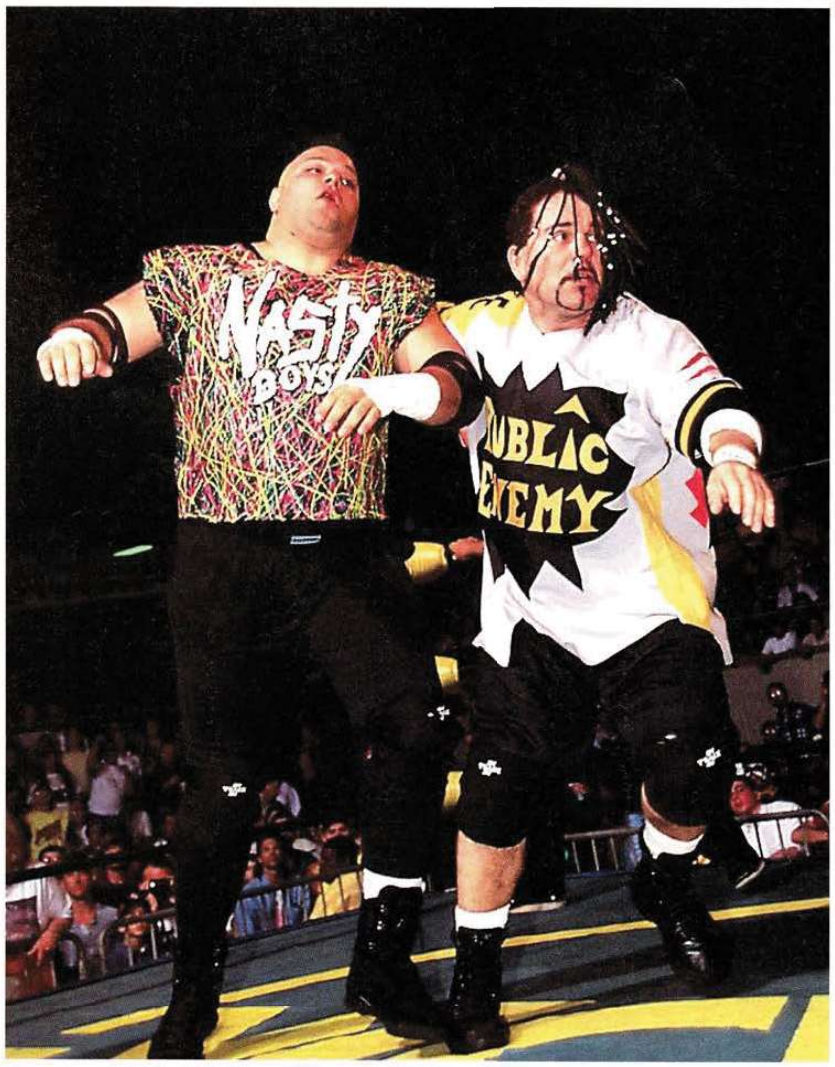
"The Nasty Boys are going to find out quickly — and painfully — that the Public Enemy is the tag team of the 1990s."

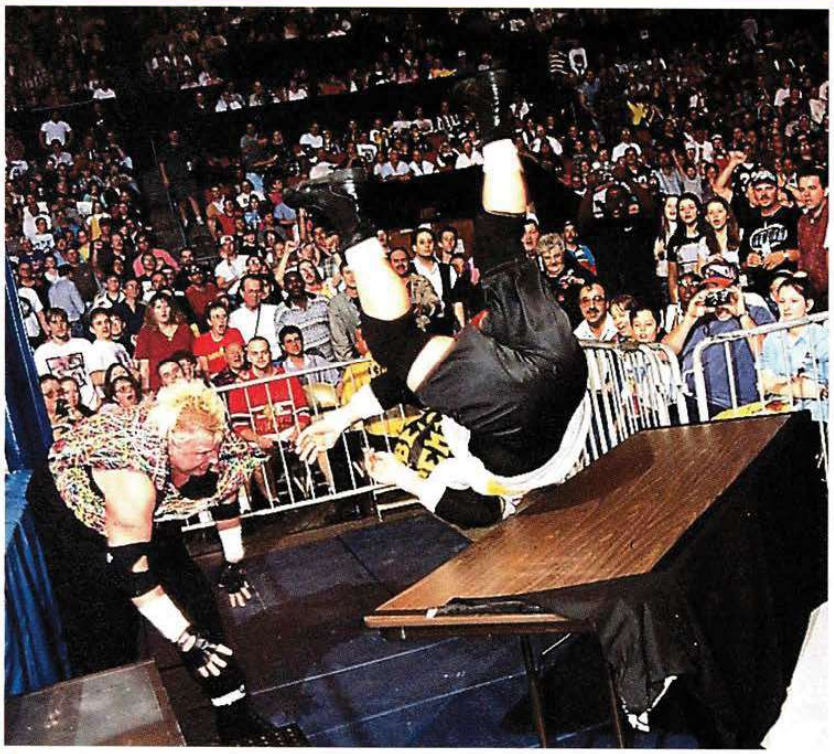
Added Rocco Rock, "The Nasty Boys are nothing but graffiti-spraying, subway-riding punks. We, on the other hand, are a pair of Hoodies who kick butt."

These Hoodies will be challenging the likes of the Road Warriors, Harlem Heat, the American Males and the Blue Bloods, among others.

"Harlem Heat are street-wise and can, pretty much, do it all," Grunge began, "but, I don't know if they have ever been inside a tornado as fierce as the matches we're going to give them. Harlem Heat, in our opinion, is the team to go after in WCW."

Grunge and Rock are each several inches smaller and about 10-to-15 pounds lighter than Stevie Ray and





Grunge and Rock also pale in the power department to the Road Warriors, Hawk and Animal.

"The Road Warriors keep saying they'd want to have a full-out brawl with us, but I don't think they really want that," Grunge said. "Sure, they are a good team, a proven team, but, they're past their prime. They were the team of the 1980s — and this is 1996!"

"The two of them always talk about pain ... well, they're certainly talking to the right people about that. We love pain. Pain is the essence of our success — being able to endure it and dish it out at the same time. We are the most violent tag team out there today — and we will remain the most violent tag team."

Hence, their slogans: Violent by Design and Naughty by Nature. Yes, Grunge and Rock are the Funks of the 1990s.

"Let me tell you something about Public Enemy," Grunge said, "we don't care about pinfalls, submissions or even (about getting) the winner's share of a match ... we just want to walk into a match in one piece and also walk out in one piece. Then we are the winner, regardless of whose hand the referee raises."

"When they've gotta carry you out on a stretcher, you're a loser. And there have been a lot of teams carried out on stretchers following matches with us."

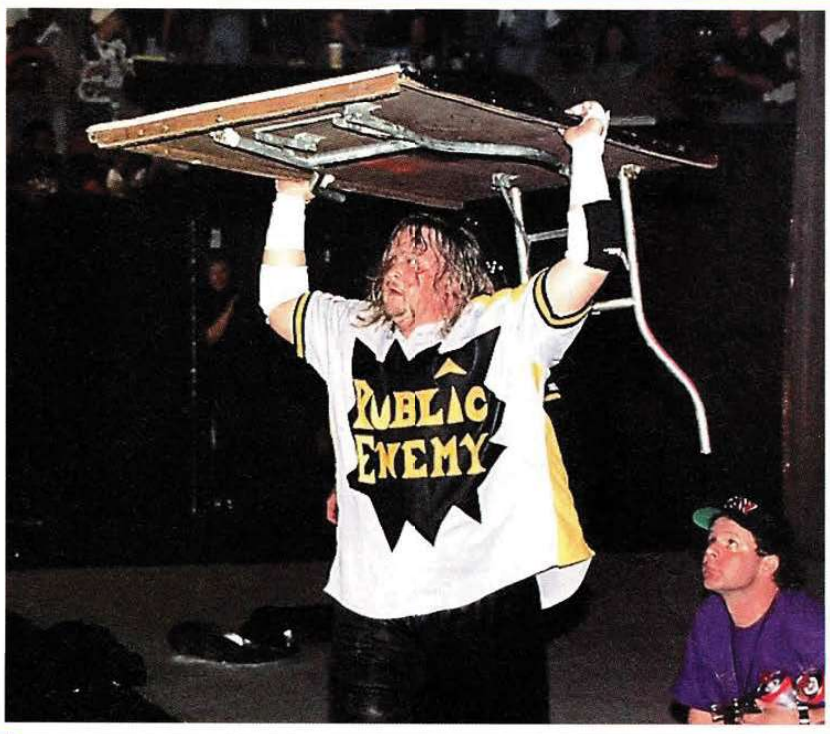
Added Rock, "We want teams to think they can stand in there with us, because we know they can't. And we will show them so. Like, for instance, the Blue Bloods, which is a highly-technical trio; hey, anytime you face two of them, you have to deal with all three, (Lord Steven Regal, Earl Robert Eaton and Squire David Taylor). Those guys can be difficult for us to wrestle because they have so many moves and holds, but, we will wear them down, as we do with all opponents. We're relentless, like pitbulls."

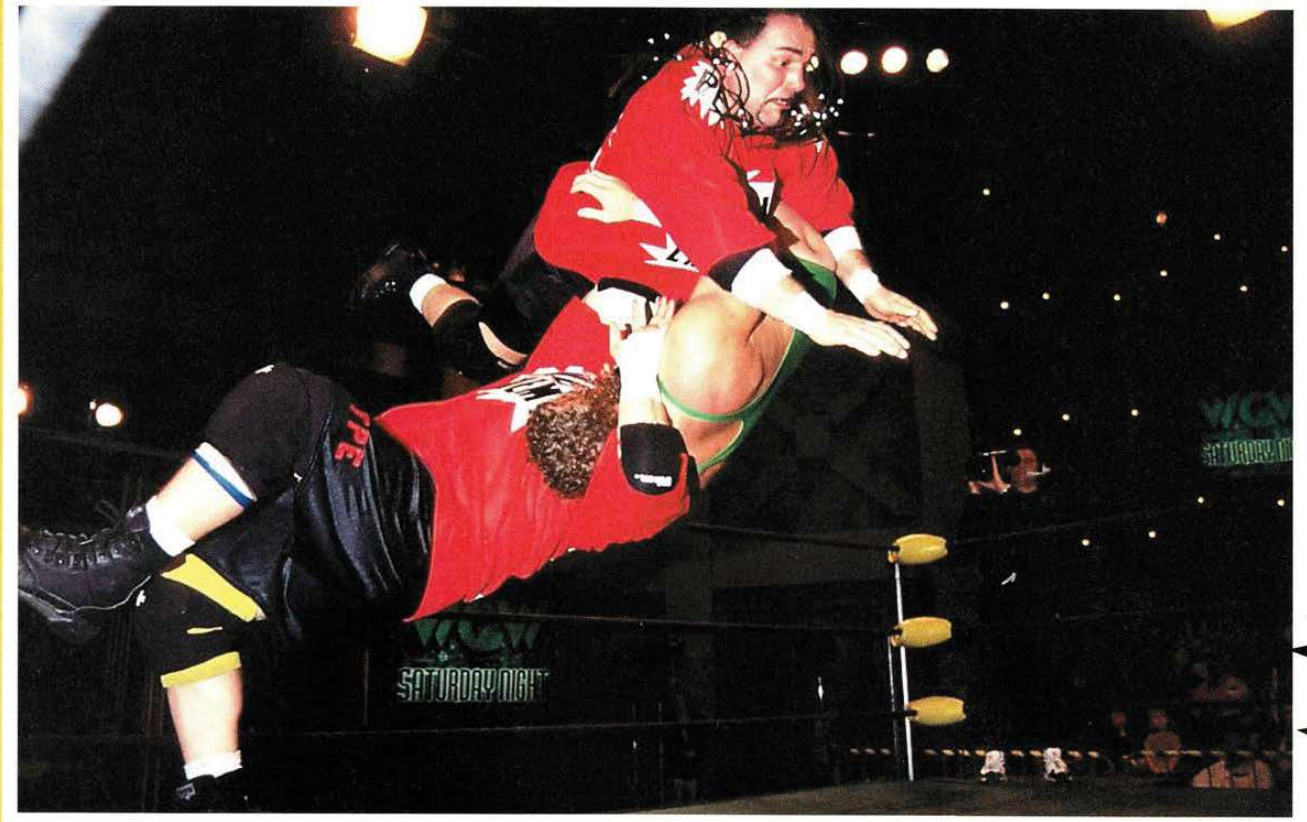
"Robert Eaton is, pound for pound, the best technical wrestler in the business. His track-record speaks for itself. But, when you hit Eaton, oh, 10 times right square between the eyes with a closed fist, he ain't gonna hurt you. David Taylor has been very successful, while Steve Regal's record speaks for itself; he's one of the great technicians of all-time. But they're going to be in for a good #$%-kicking when they step in the ring with Public Enemy."

Such as the one the American Males — namely Marcus Bagwell — endured on PE's Monday Nitro debut in January.

"I don't think (the Males) knew what they were in for when they got in there with us, and I'm sure they don't want to get back in there with us any time soon," Rock said. "We've been beating people up our whole lives ... now they want to pay us to do it. Gee, it doesn't get any better than that."

Added Grunge, "WCW really got to see at SuperBrawl what the Public Enemy can do. And what we do best is, beat people up, with no rules involved. That's why the WCW Executive Committee doesn't want us to be the Champions. They don't want us to be a top team. They don't feel we're a good representative of the company. But, plain and simply, we don't care — we're going to get there anyway, whether they like it or not."





PE primed for WCW competition with minor league stints in ECW and WWF. The two also have wrestled in Japan.

"We don't fear the unknown, not anymore. We just take it in our stride and go forward. We don't quit; that's something all of our opponents must realize," Grunge said. "We wanted to go where all of the action in pro wrestling was taking place; that's why we came here. Shoot, when we were in the WWF, there was only one tag team, the Smoking Gunns, of note, and they were so afraid of us. We quickly realized we were wasting our time in the WWF; there was no way to develop our skills in the WWF. So, when we walked out on the WWF, we never looked back; it was the best move we made of our career."

"Coming to WCW was the right decision. We know that for a fact, 100 percent. While the WWF might have ruled wrestling in the past, their day has come and gone. WCW definitely is THE wrestling organization in America."

So what can you expect from PE in the future?

Anything and everything. After all, this is the duo that does moonsaults off a cage, through three tables on fire, with a man on top.

"We knew we'd be here in WCW one day, even though it took a long time," Rock said. "I don't think WCW management has ever had a team like us, or even a singles wrestler like either of us. I don't think they yet know how to deal with us. I am probably one of the most acrobatic wrestlers in the world today, even though people might not know that. Johnny, on the other hand, is one who simply likes to put a fist between someone's eyes; you won't often see him use a fireman's carry, arm-drag or hip-toss."

Added Grunge, "Intimidation is our forte. Everyone thinks that we are just two guys from The Hood who are very stupid. Not so. We aren't just physically capable of beating opponents, but, we also are mentally capable of beating opponents."

WCW beware, Public Enemy is going to tear the house down and they don't care who is standing inside.

HOTLINE

MARK MADDEN

They do things different there. There, in this case, is Mexico. They, in this case, are the luchadores of AAA, that nation's top pro wrestling promotion.

And they are apparently coming to do it here.

Here, in this case, is WCW. It should be official by the time you read this, WCW has worked out an agreement to import talent from AAA. Konan, current WCW U.S. Champion, is the vanguard of this development both in the ring and behind the scenes.

Konan is not only perhaps AAA's top attraction, but also wields a lot of influence in the AAA front office. The initial fruits of Konan's labors yielded the match between him and Psychosis at January's Las Vegas Clash.

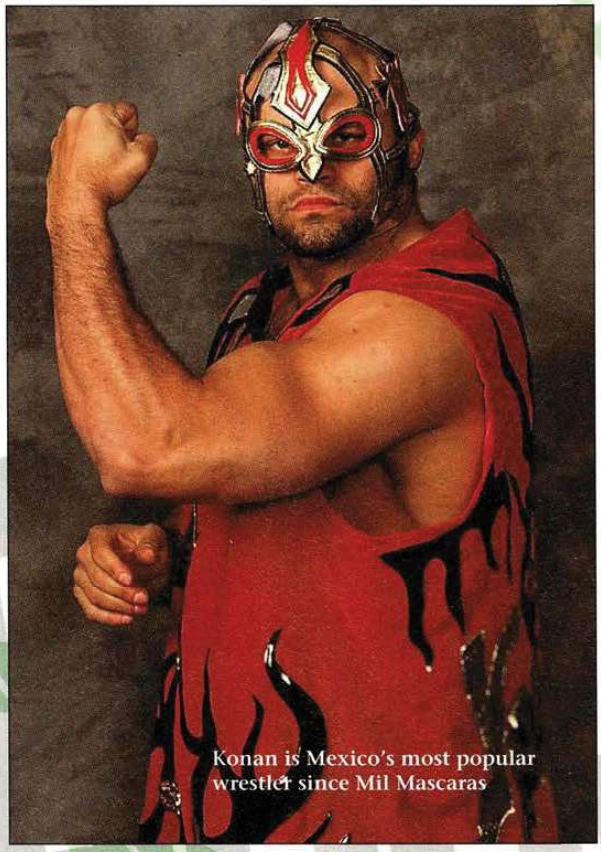
Konan is 31 years old and was born in Cuba. He grew up in Miami, became a U.S. citizen, and boxed in the Navy.

Seven years ago, Konan was playing basketball in San Diego when a couple of Mexican luchadores — wrestlers — noticed how big and athletic he was. He began training to wrestle seven years ago. Among those breaking in with him were Rey Mysterio Jr. and Psychosis, two of the best in the world now.

Konan's first big run was in Juarez, where he feuded with Eddie Guerrero. The two sold out a 14,000-seat arena eight weeks in a row.

Konan joined AAA when the group was founded in 1992. He hit the peak of his popularity in Mexico when he feuded with Love Machine Art Barr and Eddie Guerrero, known collectively as Gringos Locos, in 1994. The feud between the beloved Konan and the hated Gringos drew big money and made AAA the hottest wrestling promotion in the world for an entire year.

Konan eventually turned bad, joining Gringos Locos. But it all came to a shattering halt when Art Barr died on Nov. 23, 1994, just three weeks after AAA and WCW had co-promoted the When World Collide pay-per-view in the US.



Konan is Mexico's most popular wrestler since Mil Mascaras

Konan turned good in memory of Barr.

And he looked toward the U.S.

Konan was a phenomenon in AAA, the token muscleman, the lone big guy.

More typical of AAA are Psychosis and Rey Mysterio Jr. Both combine dramatic high-risk spots like topes and planchas with the ability to quickly exchange moves. Neither is afraid of a collision. Both are under-sized — Mysterio stands about 5-foot-4, 145 pounds. Both wear garish masks — most wrestlers in Mexico do, even Konan did before losing a mask vs. hair match to Perro Aguayo in 1991. And both go all out, all the time.

Psychosis made his WCW debut at the Las Vegas Clash in January, but don't take his brief match against Konan as exempliary of his skills.

Rey Jr. will likely be the next AAA star to come to WCW. Despite his size, his ability would make him a contender for the WCW cruiserweight belt.

Other AAA stars that could have a big impact in WCW include La Parka, Heavy Metal, Perro Aguayo, Perro Aguayo Jr., Pierroth Jr., Los Villanos and one of my personal favorites, the spectacular Juventud Guerrera.

The AAA stars can be a bit disconcerting to watch, maybe even confusing. They seem to do things in helter-skelter fashion, but there's unseen method to their non-stop madness. They can compete in WCW. No doubt about it.

Some of them, in fact, are getting a little extra practice in Konan's Baja California promotion, an offshoot of AAA. The promotion operates just south of the California–Mexico border in cities like Tijuana, San Luis, Colorado, Ensenada and Mexicali. Konan wrestles and runs the show.

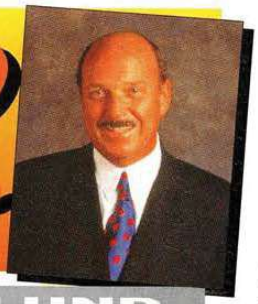
Konan's Baja offshoot is a little wilder than regular AAA wrestling. Things get taken to the extreme. Wrestlers get powerbombed through tables. Female valets get knocked around. At one recent show, the lights were extinguished. When they came back on, fans were treated to the sight of a wrestler that had been crucified to a ringpost during the darkness. Fire, baseball bats, barbed wire — they're part and parcel of Konan's group.

WCW may be where the big boys play. But it won't be where the Mexican boys burn.

Look for extreme violence to be limited to Konan's Baja promotion. But look for AAA wrestlers to come to WCW and sparkle.

Mark Madden hosts the WCW Hotline updates on a Wednesday and Friday

BUZZ



MEAN GENE OKERLUND

For the past several months, Bobby "The Brain" Heenan has made it his personal pet-project to verbally attack Dave Penzer in every way, shape and form ... most likely because Penzer is no bigger than Jimmy Hart, so Heenan must think he could handle WCW's official ring announcer if it ever escalated into a physical battle.

Anyway, I'd like to take a few moments this month to introduce Penzer, the 29-year-old Landsman hailing from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., who now makes his home in Peachtree City, Ga.

Dave attended Taravella High School (Coral Springs, Fla.) in the early-1980s, where he worked as a disc jockey at the local high school/college radio station (WKPX 88.5, which played Top 40 hits and some oldies.) When he was 16, Dave started a mobile DJ service, called The Sound Explosion, catering to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Sweet 16 and wedding crowd. He ran that for 10 years.

In 1990, Dave began working for M/S Caribe of the Commodore Cruise Lines. He spent about eight months with the ship that docked in Miami bound for the Caribbean. He was a DJ there who also, at times, worked on the cruise staff.

Dave joined WCW in 1991, initially assisting behind the scenes during TV tapings. Then, in March of '93, Dave started as a back-up ring announcer; he was promoted to the top spot last summer ... and the rest is history.

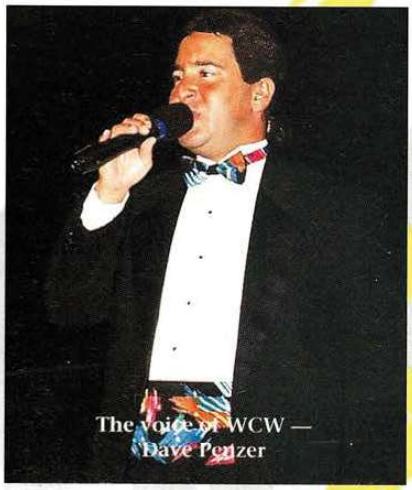
"It might not look like it, but, ring announcing is a job with a lot of pressure," Penzer said.

And how true. Consider Dave's scariest moment to date: he was picked up by the lapel of his tuxedo by the Giant during a live Monday Nitro telecast last November. The Giant had stolen Hulk Hogan's WCW World Heavyweight Championship and wanted to be introduced as the Champion.

"I wasn't going to do it, but, when you're eight- or nine-feet in the air, at the Giant's mercy, you'll do whatever he wants," Penzer said. "Hey, I just wanted to see another day in the ring."

Penzer's most memorable announcing chore came at last year's Bash at the Beach, held on Huntington Beach in California.

"Being from South Florida, I felt like



The voice of WCW — Dave Penzer

I was announcing in my element," he said. "The way I look at my job, I am responsible to entertain and update the crowd at that event when there is not a match in progress. I'm there for the fans."

So, Dave, do you really read off those cards that you hold in your hand?

"Well, he said, smiling, "to tell you the truth, after doing this for about three years, I basically know the information by memory, but, just in case, it's good to have it handy."

In addition to ring announcing, Dave works in WCW television production.

"I like my job, especially when I think that, hey, with guys in WCW like Hulk Hogan, 'Macho Man' Randy Savage and Ric Flair, I'm announcing some of the greatest wrestlers EVER in this sport," Dave said.

Keep up the good work, Dave ... regardless of what "The Weasel" says.

Now on to some other subjects ...

Kudos also go to Steve Grissom, the race car driving sensation who is a fine representative for WCW.

Manager Teddy Long won an award earlier this year from the Boy's Club of Atlanta for his service benefitting the club. In attendance that evening: Long's proteges, Craig Pittman and Jumpin' Joey Maggs.

WCW had some incredible house shows in February. The fans in Baltimore and Norfolk were amazing.

Hello to my pal Eli Gold of the Motor Racing Network.

Big Brother Booty is once again on-call as the best barber in town, and of course he can include me as a client. Too bad for him ... he only gets my money twice a year.

With the Atlanta Olympics approaching rather quickly, there is one event that you won't see ... but I sure would like to see it added to the competition. An eating contest. Imagine this ... Jerry Sags, the One Man Buffet, er, Gang and the Giant. Talk about eating you out of house and home. Heck, I saw the Giant devour a giant corndog (filled with THREE hot-dogs), and polish sausage sandwich and a large Coke in under five minutes on Feb. 9 before going on a mid-day TV show in Tampa. Another scary Olympic moment certainly would be watching Loch Ness compete in platform diving.

There are, mind you, several WCW superstars with Olympic potential. Consider:

Paul Orndorff, for the shotgun or archery events; he is, after all, an avid hunter.

The Shark was a member of the Canadian National Wrestling Team, while Pittman has in the past represented the good old U.S. of A.

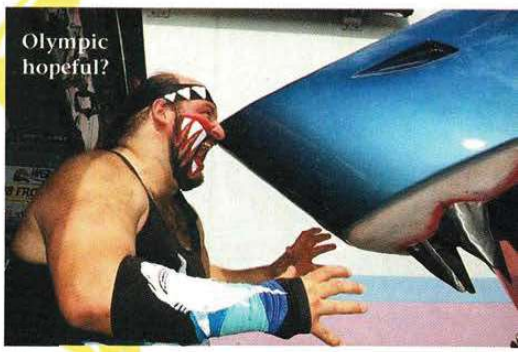
Johnny B. Badd was a nationally-recognized boxer.

And "Macho Man" Randy Savage played four years of minor league baseball (for the St. Louis Cardinals, Cincinnati Reds and Chicago White Sox organizations). Gee, can you picture a brush-back pitch with Macho at the plate?

How about gymnastics with Dean Malenko or Chris Benoit?

Callers to the WCW Hotline in late-February and early-March were treated to several major scoops, the kind that carry the "Stop The Presses" banner. Razor Ramon — in or out at the WWF? The Hotline was all over that major story. Yes, the Hotline new-shounds were running on Diesel ... oops, that too was another major topic at the time. If you've never given the Hotline a call in the past, give it a shot ... you'll be glad you did.

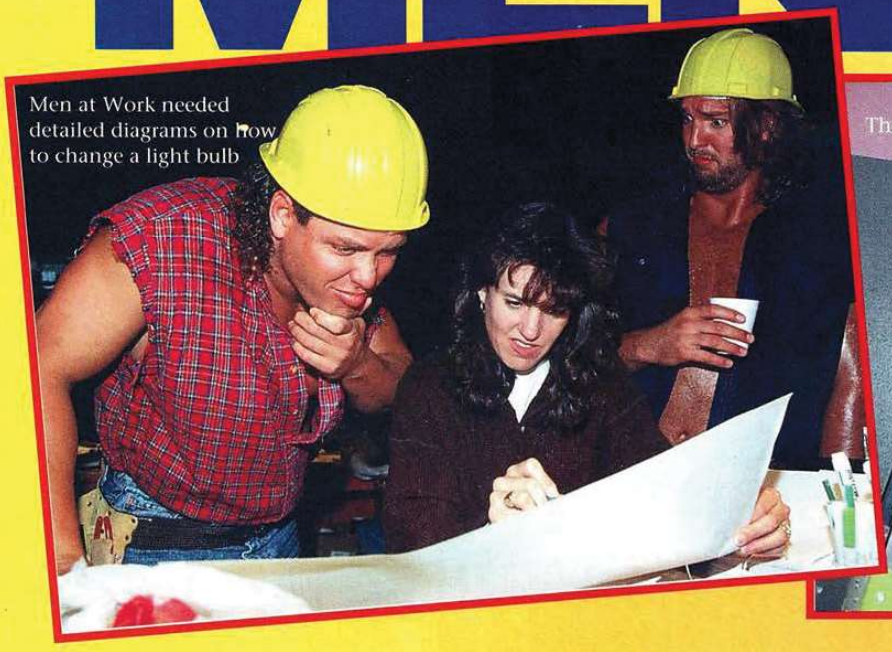
Until next month, may all your days be gold medal-winners.



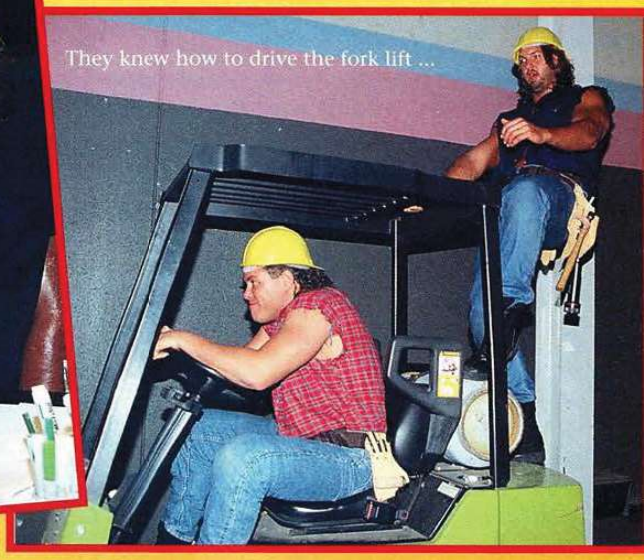
Olympic hopeful?

Mean Gene Okerlund is the co-host of the weekly WCW Main Event program on TBS. You can also hear him every Saturday on the WCW Hotline.

MEN AT



Men at Work needed detailed diagrams on how to change a light bulb



They knew how to drive the fork lift ...

Seeing is believing! The young tag team of Men At Work, Chris Kanyon and Mark Starr, are two of WCW's hottest young stars. In fact, their tag team is the newest ranked duo in the federation's deep ratings. Will they ever get off their talented butts long enough to realize their potential or will they suffer from the same malaise as WCW's other great underachiever Disco Inferno?

The phone calls went unanswered for weeks. Finally, Chris Kanyon returned our call. WCW Magazine wanted to do its first article on these fine young athletes. Were these two men too busy to return our calls? "Nah," said Kanyon. "Just didn't feel like it." How's that for public relations? Yes, Men At Work come to the ring sporting hard hats and blue jeans, but their work ethic is far from sterling. In fact, Mark Starr and Chris Kanyon might be two of the laziest young wrestlers we've ever seen!

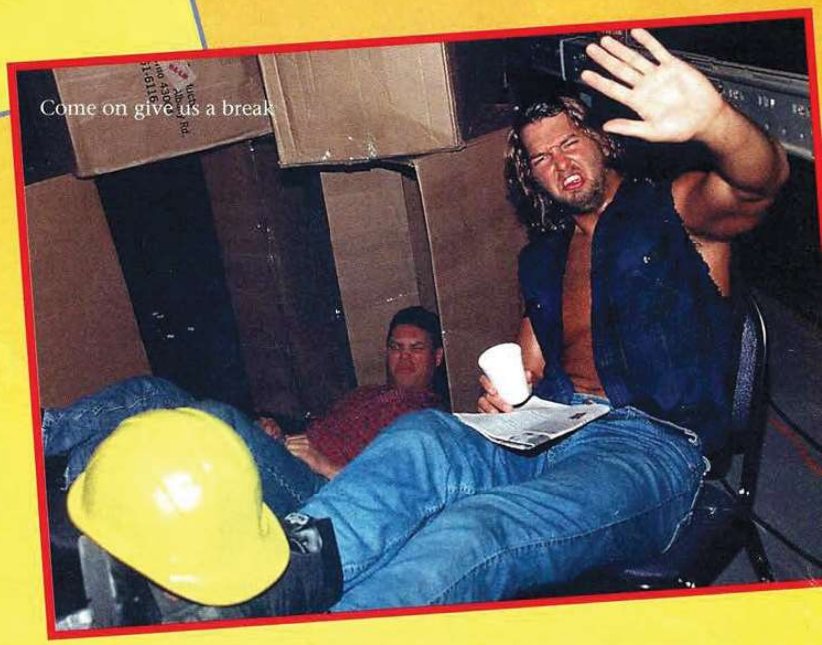
"Unfair criticism, they told us. You don't know a thing about us, we are actually skilled workers, come on down and we will prove it to you," Starr told us. Judge for yourself from looking at the photos that accompany this article.

Two men who should be training or petitioning WCW officials for bouts against other contenders are instead loafing, napping, even falling asleep for hours at a stretch. What gives?

"We just don't want to be bothered," says Kanyon, who despite his sleepy habits nonetheless is quite talented. "WCW is where the big boys play, so we let the big boys do all the work and then we come in and pick up where they left off!"

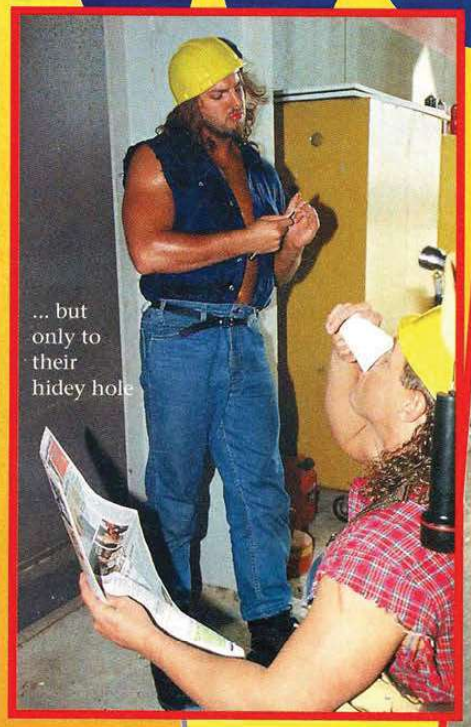
That's an odd attitude considering the dozens of truly great tag teams in WCW, but Men At Work's bizarre method does seem to be paying off. Slowly but surely, they seem to be hurtling up the ranks. Both Starr, a solid technical wrestler, and Kanyon,

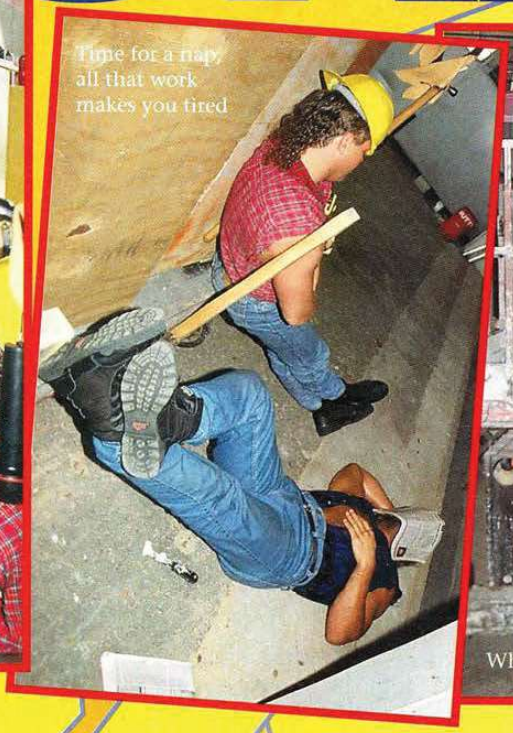
NAPPING THEIR WA

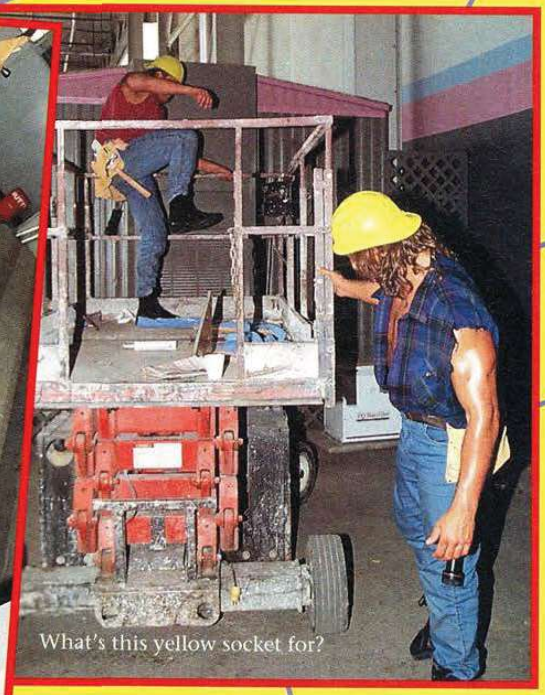


Come on give us a break

WORK?


... but only to their hidey hole


Time for a nap, all that work makes you tired


What's this yellow socket for?

who is capable of both aerial and power maneuvers, formerly languished in the preliminary ranks.

This is a duo that just clicked from the moment they stepped into a ring together. In fact, they even hold a pinfall victory over former WCW World Tag Team Champions Bunkhouse Buck and Dick Slater, who continue to rank among the very best!

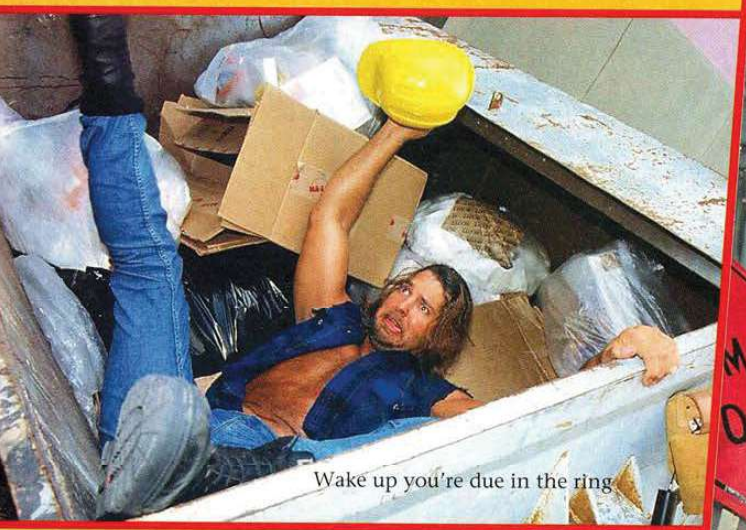
However, that victory seems to have gone straight to the heads of Starr and Kanyon. They don't train as hard as they used to. They can often be seen lazing about the locker rooms and often other wrestlers have to nudge them aside just to get room to use the lockers.

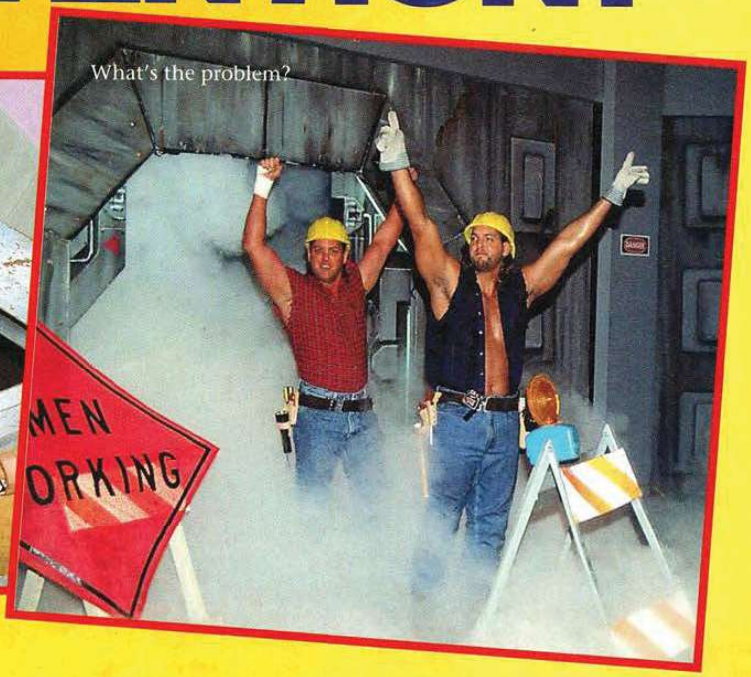
"Don't you guys ever sleep at home?" asked an angry WCW wrestler backstage before a major event. "You're making us all look lazy!"

Despite their truly unconventional methods, Men At Work continue to climb the tag team ladder.

"All we do is sleep," says Kanyon. "All we WANT to do is sleep. But other WCW tag teams better not rest easy, because Men At Work is hot on their trails!"

Y TO CONTENTION?


Wake up you're due in the ring



LIZ-RANDY: the REAL DEAL

"Macho Man" Randy Savage pulled the ultimate coup when he convinced the lovely Miss Elizabeth — his former real-life wife and manager in the WWF — to accompany the Mega Powers (Savage and Hulk Hogan) to ringside at the January Clash of the Champions, held at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Nev.

As stunning as ever despite her five year absence from the sport, Liz, in a gorgeous red dress, was the Mega Powers' secret weapon in their vicious feud with "Nature Boy" Ric Flair and his partner the Giant.

But what started so joyfully for Savage has backfired. And rather quickly, thanks to a new Liz, one who Savage — nor any fan — could have possibly imagined. Just consider some of her recent actions:

At SuperBrawl VI, she handed her high-heel shoe to Flair, helping him defeat Savage for the WCW World Heavyweight Championship.

During an episode of Monday Nitro in February, she hand-cuffed Hogan to the ring ropes so "Taskmaster" Kevin Sullivan could whip him following a six-man match.

Yep, these are the antics of "Lethal" Liz — not the "Lovely" Elizabeth who we once knew.

"I just felt that (giving the shoe to Flair) was the right thing to do," Elizabeth said. "It was a career move, not a move driven by personal motivation. I don't consider myself a bitter rival to Randy. If Randy considers me a bitter rival, I think that's simply coming from his own emotional state of mind. I learned a lot from Randy over the years; most important, though, was that you look out for No. 1: yourself."

"My feelings toward Hulk Hogan are not as emotionally-driven as they are to Randy, but, I feel he is the same, self-centered person as Randy."

"Each of the Mega Powers has a very cold, calculating outlook on life ... and I'm going to adopt that same feeling, but my own way."

"As for the fans, if they support my decisions, fine; if not, well, that's life. As long as you take care of yourself and the people who are very close to you, everything will work out in the end ... that's the way I'm looking at things now."

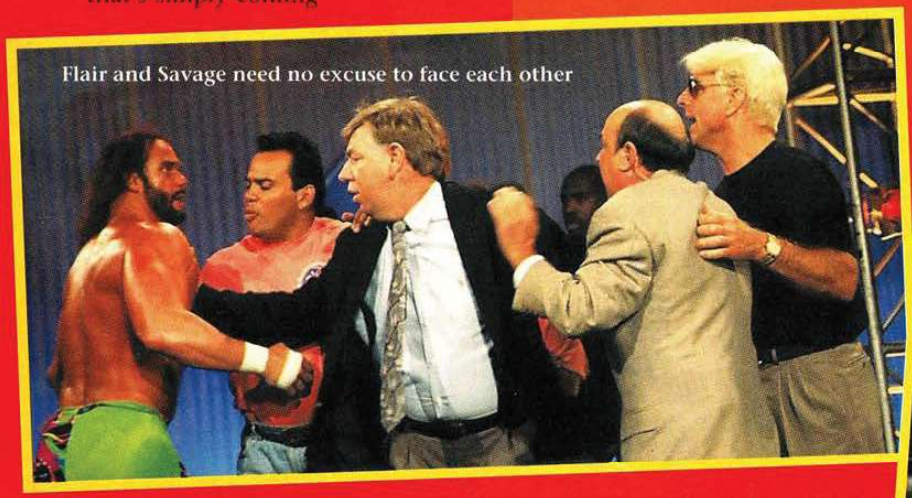
Liz appears quite at ease walking alongside the "Nature Boy," and says she's "quite happy" as his manager. Liz is responsible for Flair's travel arrangements, match bookings and contract negotiations.

"Whatever needs to be done, I make sure it gets done. If I don't do it myself, I make sure someone does. My future in WCW — with Ric Flair — is bright; it couldn't be any brighter," said Liz who, as of press time, would not comment about a potential — past, present or future — romantic relationship with Flair.

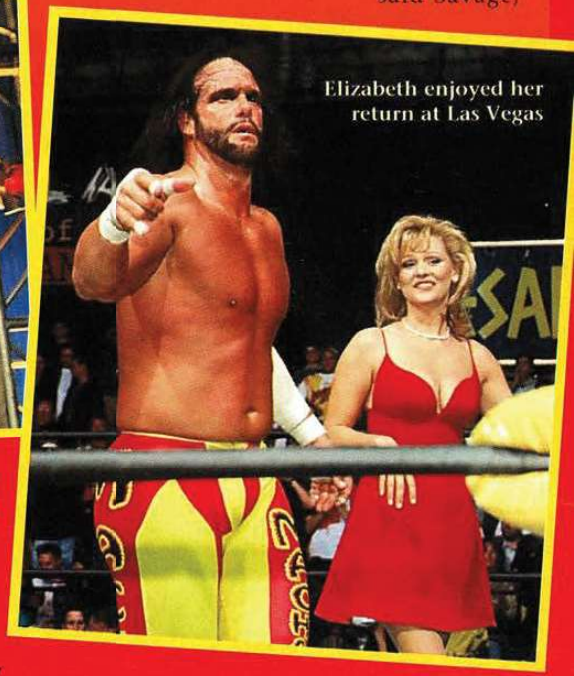
"Ric Flair, in my opinion, is the greatest wrestler ever. Sure, Randy Savage is a good wrestler, but, I think he's run by his emotions and simply inferior to Ric Flair."

Savage, needless to say, sees things quite different.

"Life is about choices and at SuperBrawl, Liz made the wrong choice. And that'll be proven. She sided with Ric Flair who, in my book, doesn't even rank among the Top Five wrestlers of all-time," said Savage,



Flair and Savage need no excuse to face each other



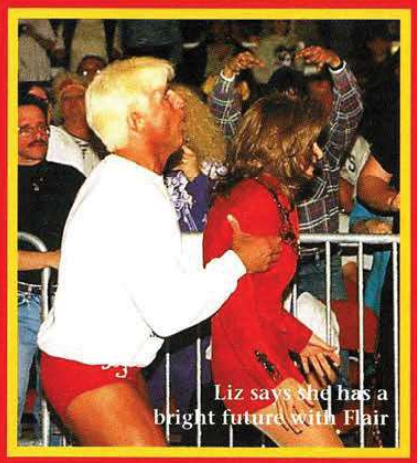
Elizabeth enjoyed her return at Las Vegas

whose list, naturally, starts with himself, then includes his father, Angelo Poffo, Hulk Hogan, "Gorgeous" George and Buddy Rogers.

Savage and Liz spent seven years together after their 1984 wedding. They were headliners everywhere they went — as wrestler/manager — while in the WWF.

"Life in the WWF was a very beneficial time in my life, but also a very exhausting and trying time. We spent seven years there, although it seemed more like 100," Liz said. "There were plenty of memorable moments, such as the day in Atlantic City when Randy became the champion. Hulk and I were there to congratulate Randy. We were a team then and everything seemed to be perfect."

"I was flattered by the title 'First Lady of Wrestling;' however, I just wasn't allowed to be more than what



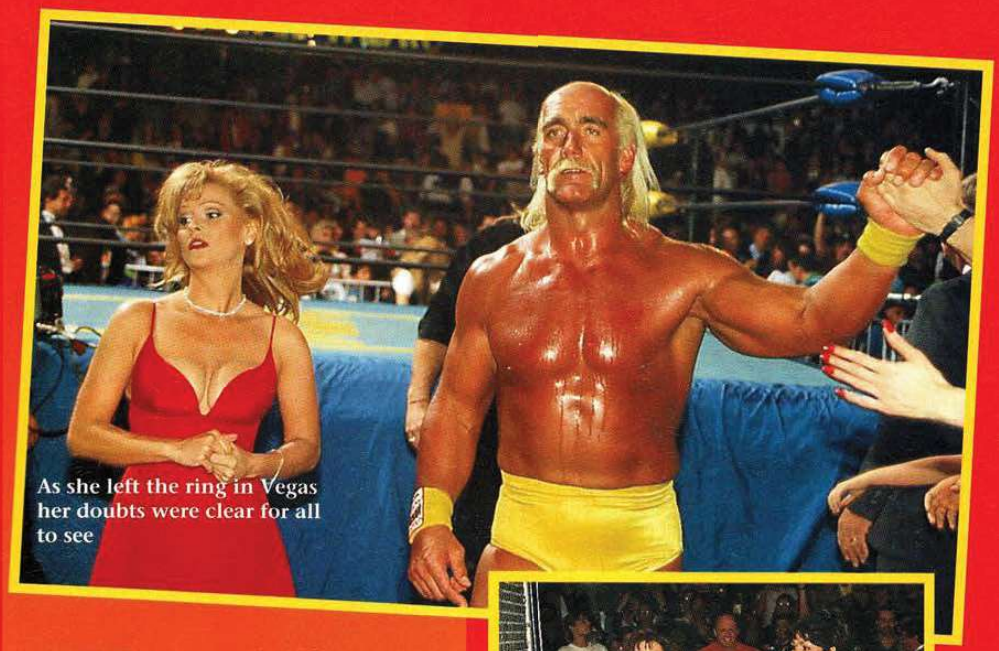
Liz says she has a bright future with Flair

I was ... and that explains a little of why I am who I am today."

Liz left the wrestling spotlight — and Savage — in 1991. She moved to Miami with her three cats and "basically just started living a normal life, which is something I really needed." Liz started/ran an advertising business, took flying lessons and rode horses. "Basically, I just did things that made ME happy, things that I hadn't gotten to do for a long time." She rarely watched any wrestling and didn't keep in contact with her allies from the wrestling world.

"A lot of people have wondered why I chose to return (at the January Clash) and, well, the answer is simple: I felt I had some unfinished business," Liz said. "Plus, in a sense, I sort of missed the wrestling world because I have a lot of 'true friends' in this sport."

"By returning, it was an opportunity to see where I was in my life and to make some choices about my life. I just felt I had to return."



As she left the ring in Vegas her doubts were clear for all to see

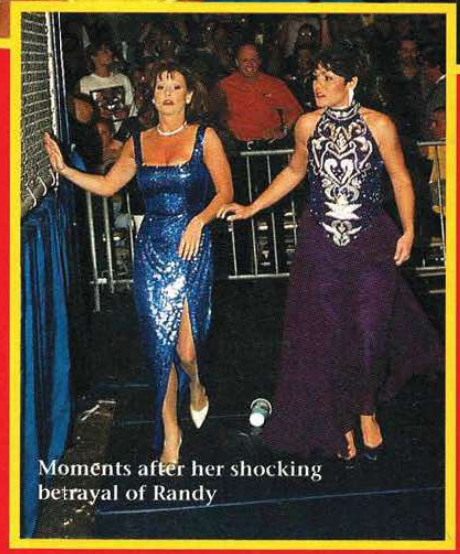
"It was great hearing the cheers that night in Las Vegas, especially since I was so nervous before the match, more nervous than any previous match ever. I enjoyed it; it was a great thrill, very gratifying."

She added: "But, as things developed over the next couple of weeks with the Mega Powers, I just got tired of being told what my place was; I was really feeling like an employee; and, since we (Savage and I) were no longer together as a married couple, I decided to do what I felt I had to do. Randy and Hulk usually do what is most beneficial to them, often without thought as to how (their actions) effect other people ... I guess I'm going to adopt that thinking now."

Liz' lack of loyalty shocked Savage. Sure, he was well aware of their out-of-the-ring differences, but felt their championship glory of the past could be rekindled. That's why he told Hogan that Liz would make the perfect 'secret weapon.'

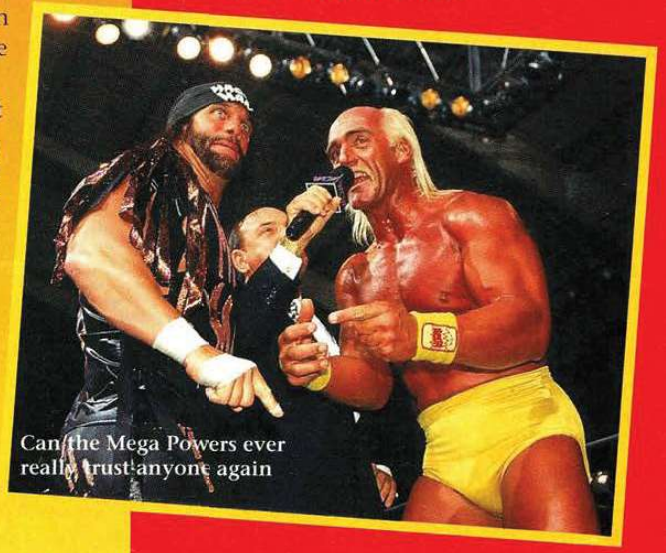
"What Liz did to me at SuperBrawl was not cool, bottom line," Savage snapped. "She screwed me and I really have no idea why. People have always speculated about her relationship with Ric Flair and the only thing I can say to that is: whatever is whatever."

"Our years together in the WWF, ooooh yeah, everything was cool; she



Moments after her shocking betrayal of Randy

was a great manager. However, when she came into WCW, she obvious had an ulterior motive. I guess she's now living in that 'Honor Among Thieves' program. As far as I'm concerned, she's gone from me for good. In life, you've gotta do what you've gotta do ... well, I think she jumped (to) the wrong side of the fence this time. I believe she made a major wrong decision and, in time, we'll find out if she was right or wrong."



Can the Mega Powers ever really trust anyone again

From the desk of Bobby "The Brain" Heenan
MEMO: Eric Bischoff, Tony Schiavone, Mean Gene Okerlund, Steve McNuggets, Dusty Rhodes, Chris Cruise, Mike Tenay, Lee Marshall and Larry Zbyszko.
CC. Nick Lambros

RE: 1995 Broadcaster of the Year Award

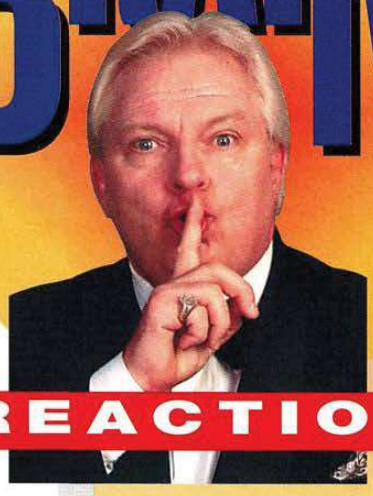
Sorry for the form-letter, even though it's more than all (except Larry) of you deserve, but, I humbly congratulate each and every one of you ... for finishing in second-place in the annual Broadcaster of the Year award voting! So who does that leave as the 1995 award-winner? You got it, yours truly, Bobby "The Brain" Heenan, broadcaster extraordinaire. You've heard me say it for years that I am a professional broadcast-journalist on par with Ted Koppel, Tom Brokaw and Dan Rather ... well, the proof is in the pudding. Hence, I accept this award and hope I can find room for another tin-can trophy alongside the 15 others that I have won. Gee, my mantle is starting to look like Mickey's.

Oh, yeah, one more thing while we're on the subject, if Colin Bowman or Bob Smith of WCW Magazine's editorial staff ever — and I mean EVER — want an interview with me, or time for a photograph, FORGET IT! Both of those humanoids cast their Broadcaster of the Year ballot for "The King of Polyester," Tony Schiavone. The only WCW Magazine editorial member with half a brain cell — and at times I wonder if it isn't less than one-eighth of a cell due to the number of times he has been hit in the head with hockey pucks while talking to Mean Gene — is Ross Forman. Ross had enough sense to vote for yours truly, even though he did so in crayon.

Sincerely,

"The Brain"

BRAIN REACTION



Now on with the rest of Brain Reaction, the most-read, most-popular and most-informative column in this magazine. My two pages have more news than all other columns COMBINED ... yes, I know I am being modest.

Bobby "The Brain" Heenan is the co-host of WCW Monday Nitro Live on TNT. He also serves as color commentator on WCW Clash and PPV broadcasts.
All the views expressed are his and his alone!

RINGTHEBELL.com on Archive.org

My trusted pal Woody infcrms me that a major shake-up is imminent among the columnists at WCW Magazine. Some writers are being let go, Woody says, while another is being added. Woody told me that Madusa will start as a regular writer next month ... and I almost fell off the recliner when I heard the news. Madusa? A writer? A woman writer, no less? She has as much business writing for this magazine as, say, "Dorky" Dave Penzer appearing in GQ. There is, though, one positive element to Madusa joining the columnist ranks: the fact that Madusa is going to — and amazingly at her own request — answer letters from the humanoids. Consequently, I will NOT ever again answer those stupid, crayon-written notes. Madusa, enjoy!

I keep hearing all this hoop-la about Steve Grissom, the driver of car No. 29 on the Busch NASCAR Racing Series. So, I went to his pit to check things out myself and, well, the man's a fraud, a fake, a phoney. He says he cruises around the track at 200 MPH, but he is simply a bit confused by numbers. What he means is, he drives 200 miles a month — in his dusty (not you, Rhodes), beat-up Pinto, with the cruise control set at 29 MPH.

This Mexican superstar Konan is mighty impressive ... when it comes to cooking burritos. As for wrestling, uh, he's one step above "Das Wunderpunk" Alex Wright, maybe. Actually, I'm told Konan and Wright have been in discussion to form a new tag-team: Sauerkraut and Sopapilla. Good luck ... but would you pass me the Rolaids.

I spoke with Dean Malenko and he explained — and gently demonstrated — hold No. 752. He then should me the counter for that; it's No. 911. Glad to be of service.

Sting was telling me that, because of his deep admiration for Lex Luger, he plans to change his name so he can walk around with Luger's boots, just because they have his initials. I told Sting that "LL" did not match his initials, so he said, and I quote, "That's OK; I'll change my name to Liver Lips."

Does anyone recall who won the Super Bowl XXX, played this past January in Arizona? If so, would you please FAX the final score to me. My number is: 1-900-K-GREENE.

What about the Mario, I mean Barrio Brothers? Luigi and Mario or whatever they're called should go back to plumbing, after all they're never going to make it as wrestlers.

Two of the most beautiful women I have ever dated, er, met — Elizabeth and Kimberly — have made "major career decisions" in recent months. Personally, I find it ironic how drastically different the moves were. One was smart; one was stupid. It's just too bad not all the women are required to spend a night with me — obviously on a completely professional basis — so I can evaluate their future in this sport ... and hopefully rifle through their purse. Women, for the most part, just can't think for themselves without a Brain.

Have you seen those commercials that air on WCW telecasts for WCW Magazine? They feature some punk kid wearing face-paint just like Sting. Well, I've learned a little bit about that kid. His name is Garrett and ... well ... uh ... well, I just can't place him immediately, but, I know I've seen him before because he looks quite familiar without the paint. Gosh, who would know who he is, because I NEED to know these facts ... after all, maybe he needs an agent, someone to handle his finances? I suppose I'll just ask one of those flunkies who sit alongside me on Monday Nitro.

With all of the exciting things happening each and every week in WCW — people going this way, people going that way, etc. — why in the world would Mean Gene devote half of his column last month to WCW's athletic supporter, er, trainer, Chuck Tache? Gee, what's next, a feature story on "Dorky" Dave Penzer?

Can you imagine the lucky lady who had the honor of bringing Loch Ness home to meet mom and dad? Boy, they must have been proud.

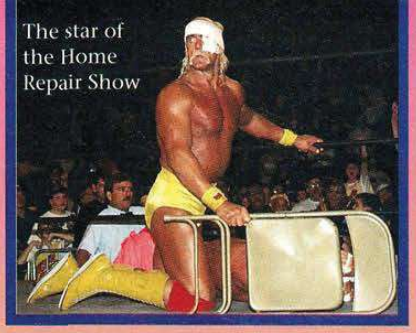
August 14, 1996 ... it's a day that will live in wrestling infamy. Trust me.

Hulk Hogan loves chairs. Public Enemy has a fetish for tables. Hacksaw Jim Duggan constantly carries a 2-by-4. What gives? Is this pro wrestling or the Home Repair Show?

Everyone keeps telling me that Eric Bischoff has a lot of "power" around here, but, I find that hard to believe. The thing is, every Monday Nitro, as I peacefully perform my duties as a broadcast-journalist along with Bischoff and Steve McNuggets, our set seems to have an open

Pepe is the real talent

invitation sign for any idiot — such as Hulk Hogan, Randy Savage or that fat former footballer William "The Refrigerator" Perry — to storm the microphone. These antic's have gotten out of hand — and need to be stopped. You don't see me storming into the middle of the ring any time I feel like it and, trust me, there are plenty of times when I feel like cleaning someone's clock. However, I show restraint, which is something

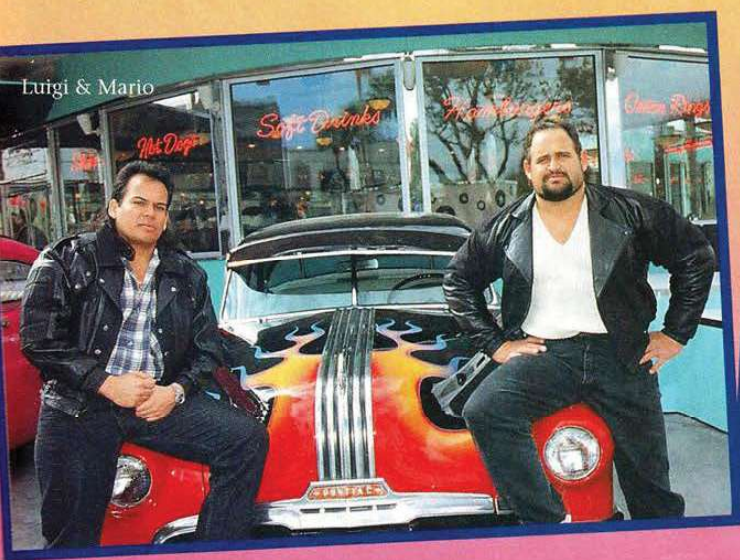

The star of the Home Repair Show

a lot of wrestlers need to learn. If not, I say fines should be assessed, starting at $150,000 for the first offense, and doubling each time thereafter. And, since I made the suggestion, I'll volunteer to collect the money, which will go right to the needy — trust me!

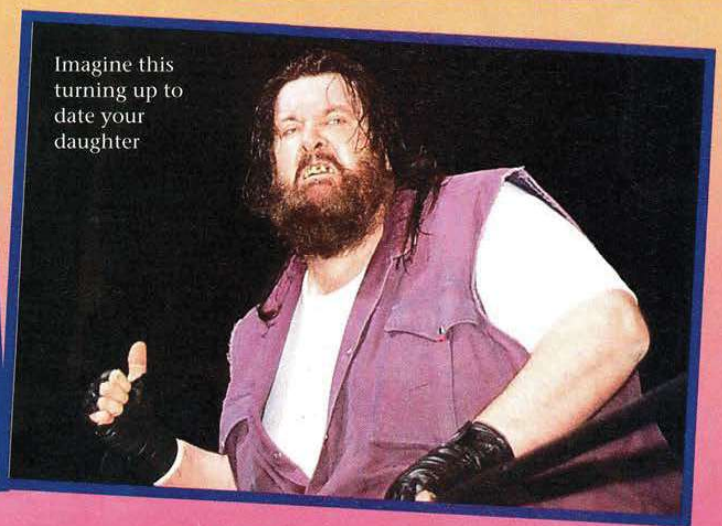
I'll be the first to admit I've been a bit harsh about Pepe in the past, however credit where credit is due. That dog is one hell of a ventriloquist, I mean you can't see his lips move when McNuggets is talking.

My bud George — Steinbrenner, that is — was there in person at Nitro in Tampa, sitting in the seats that I left for him. George was so excited to see me that he even offered me the New York Yankees' starting job at first base. I thought about it and thought about it and thought about it some more, then declined ... I didn't want to take a pay cut!

Not this year George

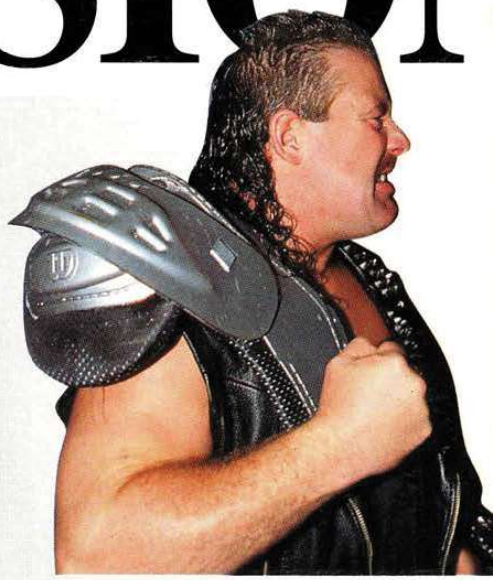


Luigi & Mario


Imagine this turning up to date your daughter

The Belfast Bruiser
COLLISION

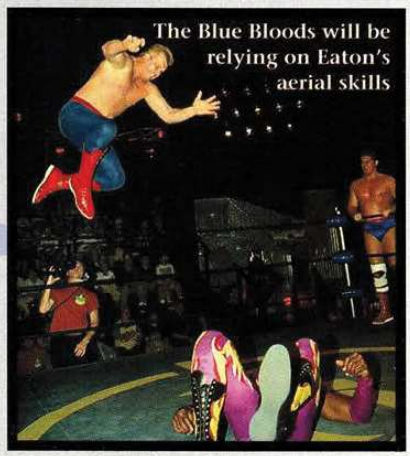
From the moment he entered WCW, it was clear the Belfast Bruiser was after just one thing: An opportunity to batter Lord Steven Regal, his longtime nemesis from British rings. Now, Regal seems to be about to accept the Bruiser's challenge, but does Bruiser realize that Regal now has not one but two accomplices in Earl Robert Eaton and Squire David Taylor? It's WCW world war of the highest magnitude!



In wrestling, sneak attacks are part of the game. The legendary Gordon Solie used to refer to WCW as "a game of human chess," and that meant that the superstars battle with their bodies, hearts and heads. Never look straight forward, because someone might be creeping up on you.

Lord Steven Regal never saw it coming. He had just scored a victory on WCW Saturday Night when out of the stands, seemingly out of nowhere, came a man who has never been seen in a United States ring before. He laid a horrible beating on Regal, who was helpless and unable to defend himself.

"This is why I'm in WCW!" the man now known as the Belfast Bruiser screamed. "Regal, I've chased you in every territory in every country in the world. Now that I've found you, I'm going to put an end to your career once and for all!"

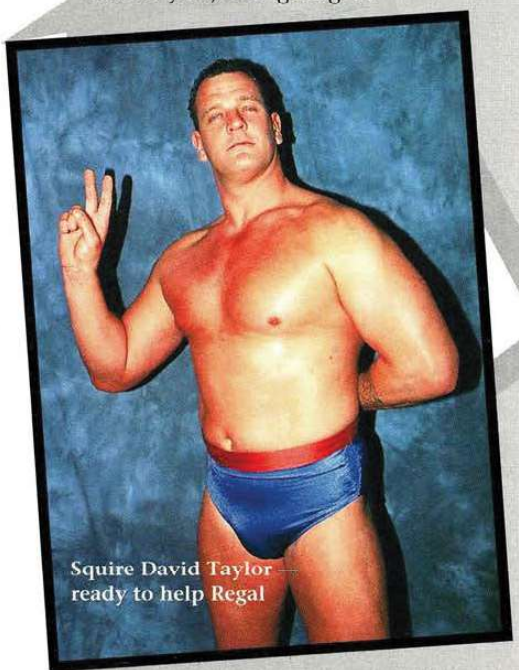


The Blue Bloods will be relying on Eaton's aerial skills

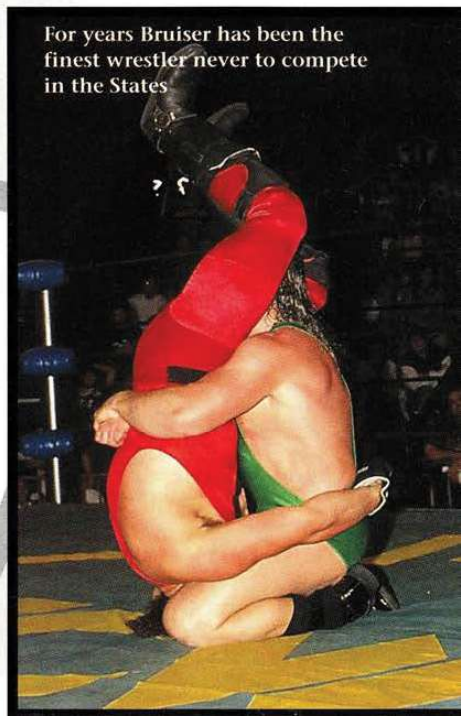
Tough words, but The Belfast Bruiser is one tough man. This legendary battler from Northern Ireland may be an unknown here, but this man has been among the top international stars for more than two decades. A physical conditioning buff, Dave "Fit" Finlay has been a superstar in England, Ireland, Europe and Japan for as long as he's been a professional. He's garnered championships all over the globe, but he didn't come to WCW to strap yet another belt around his waist.

"It's the damnable Regal that I want!" says Bruiser, a solid 255-pounder. "We had a feud years ago, and when I beat him, he went running out of the country. Then he went to Japan, I followed him there, but when he found out I was there too, he left with his yellow streak running down his back. Country after country, he ran like a coward. Now, there's no more running. There's no more hiding. Steven Regal is mine, but I bet he'll try to get lost again. He's a lower life form than a yak!"

Not so fast, Mr. Bruiser. He didn't realize it at the time, but Regal isn't alone in WCW. Not only does he have his Blue Bloods tag team partner, Earl Robert Eaton, looking out for his best interests, but the team now has a third member: Squire David Taylor, the former British and European champion who has vowed to assist the Blues Bloods. It's kind of a "any two members are



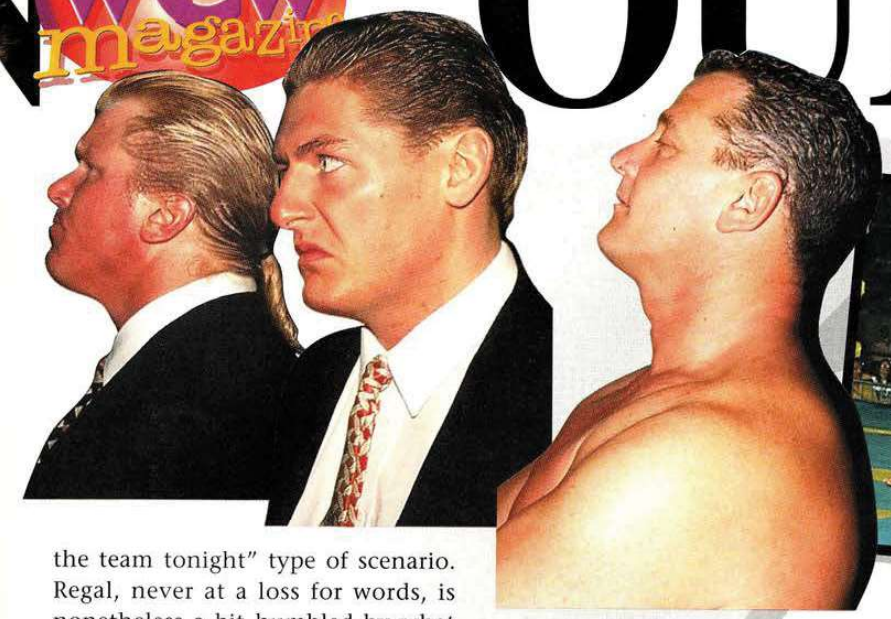
Squire David Taylor — ready to help Regal

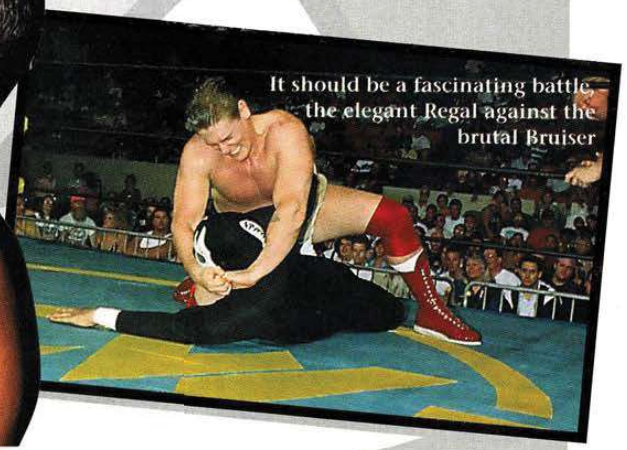


For years Bruiser has been the finest wrestler never to compete in the States

vs. The Blue Bloods

COURSE





It should be a fascinating battle, the elegant Regal against the brutal Bruiser

the team tonight" type of scenario. Regal, never at a loss for words, is nonetheless a bit humbled by what is happening.

"This man is nothing more than an animal," he said as he was being helped up after the brutal beating administered by the Bruiser. "He wants to blame me for the Irish-British conflicts? Insanity, but he'll have two more men to contend with."

That's for sure, but right now let's look at one of the most intriguing matchups to hit WCW in years: Bruiser vs. Regal. This is the hardest match to pick that we can ever recall! These two men are nearly equals in size, strength, experience, and finesse. Both can wrestle like collegiate champions, but we have to give an edge to Bruiser in the brawling department. That goes without saying! However, few, if any WCW competitors have the stamina that Regal can boast.

This is one of the few men who could go a solid hour in a pro ring and never even be winded or fatigued. Could the Bruiser be his equal in this regard? The only way to find out is to throw these men in a ring and tell the referee to let them have at it. The feud obviously opens up other options as well. Does the Bruiser want to find a partner to help him battle Eaton and the burly Taylor? Or does he want to take these men on one-by-one until there's nothing at all left of the Blue Bloods? He is so full of rage it would not surprise us if he actually challenged all three at the same time.

Eaton, true to form, has said little about anything that's been developing. WCW sources tell us that despite his usual low profile, he, Taylor, and Regal have been training as a trio for more than two months. The idea, according to those sources, is to make any two of the three ready for battle against the Bruiser, be he alone or with a partner. What if Bruiser wants to take on Taylor or Eaton individually?

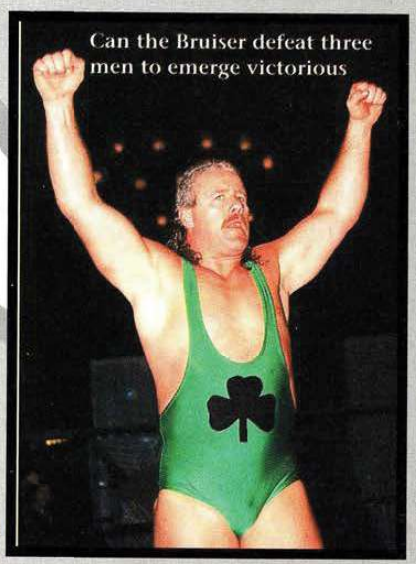
Bruiser seems to have the edge on Eaton in power, but few men in the history of this sport are as adept aerially as Lord Robert. Again, a match that is very hard to call. Of course, the Bruiser has acted like a raging lunatic of late, but never disregard Eaton's wiles. You don't get to be a multiple-time holder of the WCW World Tag Team championship by being a nice guy.

Taylor versus Bruiser puts Taylor on top in terms of power; he's easily the biggest of the four men. Taylor also matches his natural strength with some fine scientific wrestling talent. Could he outsmart a livid Bruiser in a brawl? Judging by the bouts held between the pair in the past the ultimate winners will be WCW's fans.

Truly, this figures to be one of the most interesting WCW feuds to come along in many a moon.

"For 400 years my country has been oppressed by pigs like the Blue Bloods. Now Ireland shall be avenged!" bellows the Bruiser.

Perhaps, but can he overcome the skills of the three WCW Blue Bloods? He's tough, but one man can rarely beat three ... but in Bruiser's case, he's ornery enough to make an exception to that rule!



Can the Bruiser defeat three men to emerge victorious

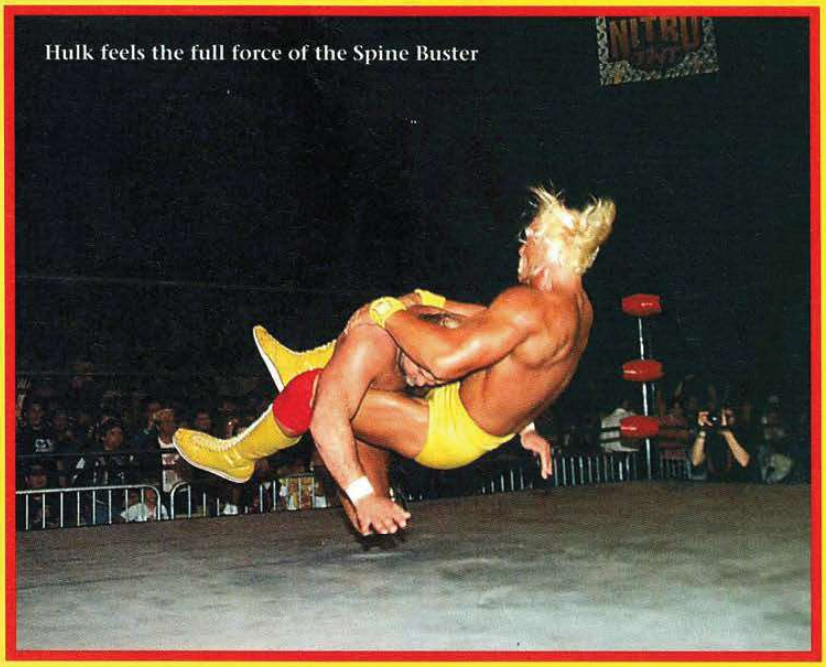
ARN ANDERSON

"I'll never be defeated again!"

After years of trying, the legendary Arn Anderson got what he always wanted: A bout against the sport's biggest star, Hulk Hogan. Sure, Anderson scored a pair of victories over the Hulkster, but both were through the most nefarious of means. Now, "The Enforcer" is on a hot streak. Can anyone stop him ... or the Four Horsemen?

It was just over a year ago that Arn Anderson sat in a beautiful Baltimore hotel restaurant chatting with members of the WCW Magazine staff. The career rulebreaker was in a great mood, as he was about to defend his WCW World Television Title against Alex Wright, and he was proving his true greatness against the game "Das Wunderkind" in every single bout. However, when Hulk Hogan strolled into the restaurant, "Double-A" stopped talking about his upcoming match and talked about his long, storied career.

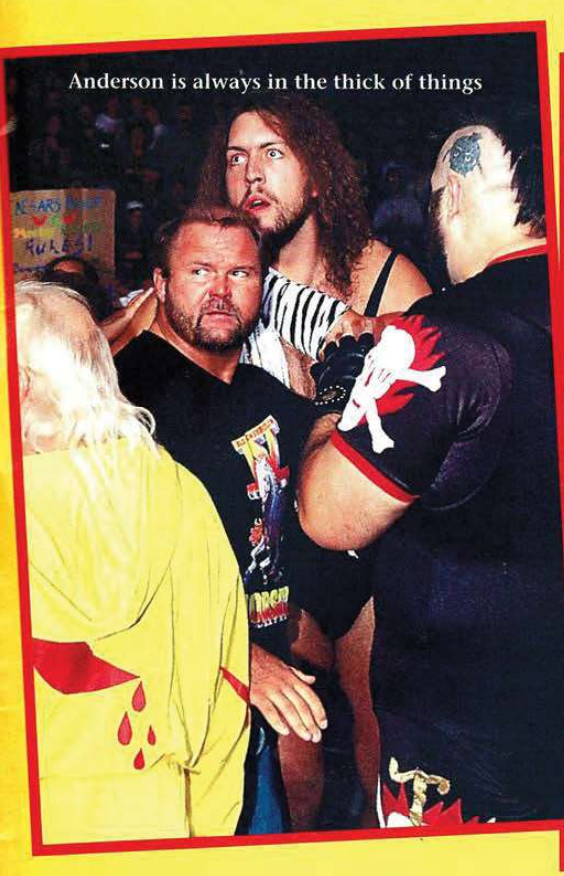
"You know, I've always considered myself an uncrowned World heavyweight champion," said Anderson, making a solid point. "You see that man over there (Editor: Hogan was then WCW World Champion) has never given me a championship match throughout my career. Not here. Not in any federation. In my eyes, the man is ducking me. He knows the greatness of Arn Anderson. He knows that I've beaten everyone there is to beat in the wrestling world. He also knows that I'm the man who can beat him any day of the week. So call me the uncrowned champion, but myself and many other people think the true story of what's going down in WCW is this. Hogan is scared to face me."


Hulk feels the full force of the Spine Buster

Now, move a year into the future, and the unthinkable has happened: Anderson owns not one, but TWO victories over a man who long has been considered unbeatable in the legendary Hulkster. Let's check the facts, though: In the first bout, Anderson used tons of outside interference, including the jamming of Miss Elizabeth's shoe into Hulk's already damaged eye, to score a pinfall that was painfully illegal. In fact, word came down that the WCW Executive Committee was close to overturning the decision, but since it was not a title match of any kind, the only person with the power to overturn the result was the official, and he saw no illegality take place.

In the second equally controversial match, Anderson used his usual circle of Horsemen cronies — Elizabeth, Woman, Chris Benoit, and Ric Flair — to capture a disqualification victory over Hogan. It is very clear that with lots of help, Anderson can defeat Hulk Hogan. But can Anderson even come close to beating Hulk in a clean one-on-one contest?

Rules, dignity, and pride seem to matter little to Anderson or any member of the Horsemen. Just listen to these comments made by Arn on WCW Monday Nitro: "Twice now, Hogan, you've been beaten by me. I think that makes me the legend that you claim to be. Before that, the great Ric Flair beat you. These days, we've got the Horsemen along with Kevin Sullivan and his men coming after you. It's just a matter of time before the door is closed on Hulkamania, and it's going to be my name in the record books as the guy



Anderson is always in the thick of things

That unbelievable pinfall

who locked it. The way I feel now, I'll never be defeated again. I've never been hotter!"

Harsh words, but to his credit, Hogan laughs off Anderson's comments. He knows why and how he lost the matches, and being a man's man, Hogan can stand an "L" next to his name once in a while. Honor and character mean much more to him.

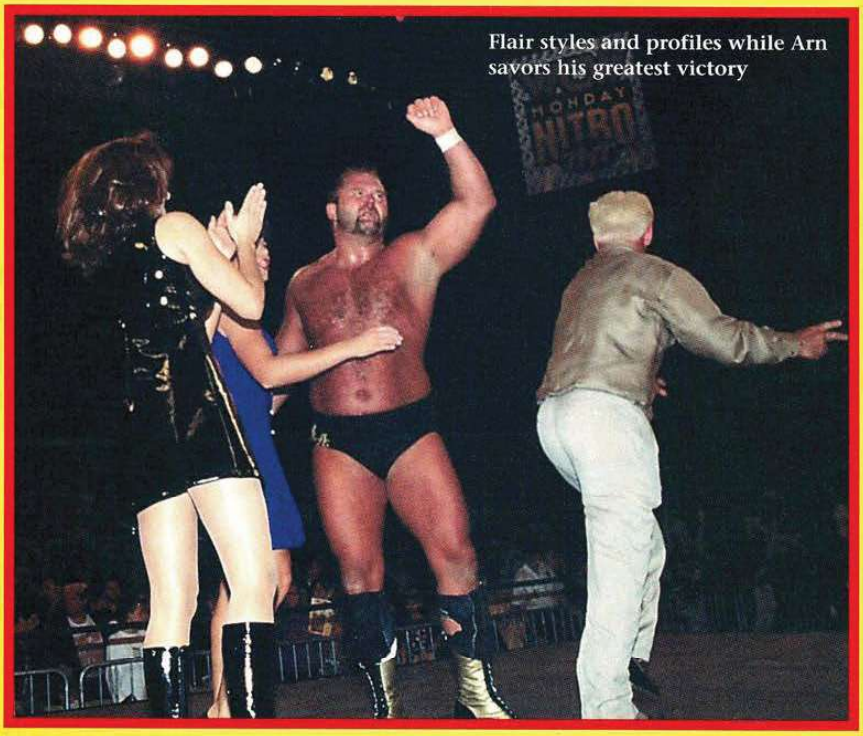
"There's no disgrace in being defeated if you weren't really being beaten," says Hogan. "Sure, a couple of pinfalls, but were there any clean pinfalls? Check the tapes, ask the fans. They know. Anderson can talk all he wants, so can Flair, so can that big stinky nasty Giant. None of them could beat me fairly on their best day, and that's why Hulkamania is stronger than ever."

If the losses to Anderson bother Hogan, the former World champion surely does not let it show. These days, Anderson isn't talking about the Hogan situation nearly as much as in weeks past. Now, he's being brutally honest about another situation: Keeping the WCW World Championship belt around the waist of Ric Flair.

"That's always been the first and foremost priority of the Four Horsemen," Anderson said on a recent edition of WCW Monday Nitro. "Wins and losses don't matter nearly as much. Our job is to protect the most important championship in this sport!"

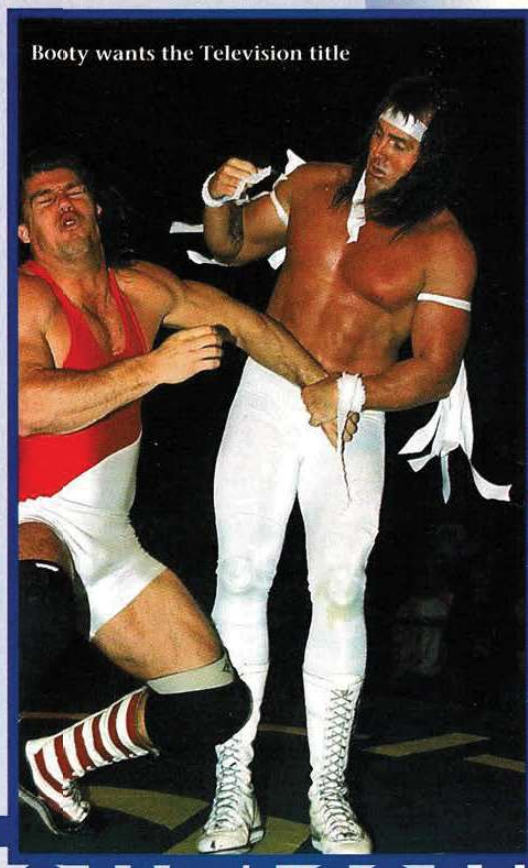
Anderson continues to do his job in that regard so very well! In bout after about against top contender Randy Savage, Flair found himself in serious trouble, but Anderson, as always clad in his black Horsemen T-shirt, is the first man out of the locker room to avert pinfalls. He's so adept at causing mayhem that no WCW official has caught him interfering, although it is obvious that he's a man who causes more trouble for the WCW hierarchy than anyone.

Two victories over Hogan. More wins than ever. A secure, confident Four Horsemen. Ric Flair is World Champion. These are fine and profitable days for Arn Anderson. So what else is new? Unlike most stars who come and go, Anderson is eternal. Will he ever be less than WCW's true focal point?



Flair styles and profiles while Arn savors his greatest victory

IN FROM THE COLD


Booty wants the Television title

THE MEGA POWERS WELCOM

Due to a special airing of Andersonville, Monday Nitro on TNT was pre-empted on the first Monday in March. Live WCW mat action was put on hold for a week, for one of the few times since Nitro's debut last Labor Day. However, that didn't stop Hulk Hogan and "Macho Man" Randy Savage from fuelling their friendship, as the Mega-Powers transformed their athleticism into a two-man volleyball team at Venice Beach. They welcomed all challengers, fearing no one. After all who could stop the world's most powerful pair.

Especially with Big Brother Booty watching their backs. Just in case of a sneak attack by Kevin Sullivan and his entourage from the Dungeon of Doom or Ric Flair and the Four Horseman.

There certainly is joy among the three amigos.

"Things are going great," said Big Brother Booty, his face glowing in the Southern California sunshine. "Ever since Big Brother Booty arrived on the scene in WCW, there has been nothing but pandemonium. I have yet to see a booty that I can't kick."

Take, for instance, the week before this beach excursion. Booty Fever ran wild in Knoxville, Tenn. — and through Sullivan, Flair and Arn Anderson in a special six-man tag match on Monday Nitro.

"Brother Hulkster and "Macho Man" had me taking care of business for them all over the 'Big Apple,' New York City, before I infiltrated the Dungeon of Doom and the Four Horsemen," Booty explained. "When the time was right, the Mega Powers called me to break away from the Dungeon and help take care of all the family business. I was more than glad to help Hulk and "Macho" in their darkest hour. Basically what the three of us were doing was, setting a trap for the Dungeon of Doom and the Four Horsemen.

"Now that I am a full-fledged, card-carrying member of the Mega Powers, my main goal is to kick butt and take names."

"A lot of people wondered why the (face-) paint and why (pretend to be) Zodiac. Well, the reason is simple: The Mega Powers needed my help, namely Hulk Hogan, who is constantly under attack from every evil force in the universe. Hulk Hogan has always been able to handle himself, but the Dungeon of Doom and the Four Horseman were overwhelming, and he needed Big Brother Booty to even the odds. By getting close to the enemy, to learn their weaknesses and vulnerable points, we are now able to exploit them to the fullest."

He added, "What most people don't understand is, Big Brother Booty and the Hulkster have been together long before the Dungeon of Doom, long before the Four Horseman, long before World Championship Wrestling. We have been brothers since day one of our wrestling careers. We started on the road together, pounding highways and by-ways together. And we will remain that way for just as long as we want to. We have always been, and always will be, blood brothers to the bitter end, in and out of the ring!"

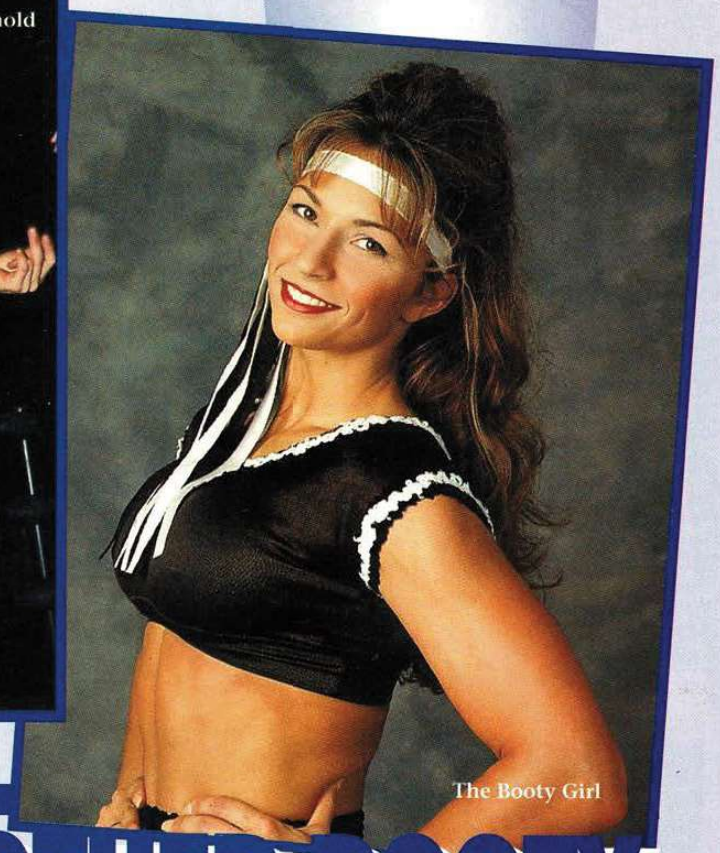
What about trust? Certainly that has to be a factor. Can Hulk trust Big Brother Booty? Can Big Brother Booty trust Hulk? And what about "Macho Man?" Can he trust both, and do both trust him?

"Unquestionably, one million percent," Savage snapped, after spiking a game-winning point.

"Trust is not a factor," Booty said. "I never would have infiltrated the Dungeon in the first place if I didn't trust the Hulkster and "Macho."

Are free haircuts still on the menu

Master of the Sleeperhold



The Booty Girl

E BACK BIG BROTHER BOOTY

"Wrestling is only a small part of the big picture for the three of us. Oops, it's the four of us; I certainly can't — and won't — forget my favorite Booty Girl, Kimberly. Hulk, "Macho" and I are brothers of the road. We have always been there for each other; that's why there's no question of trust now that we're back together as one solid force. It was all just part of the master plan."

Booty struts his stuff these days to the admiration of millions of adoring fans — and, of course, one special lady: the incredibly-attractive Kimberly.

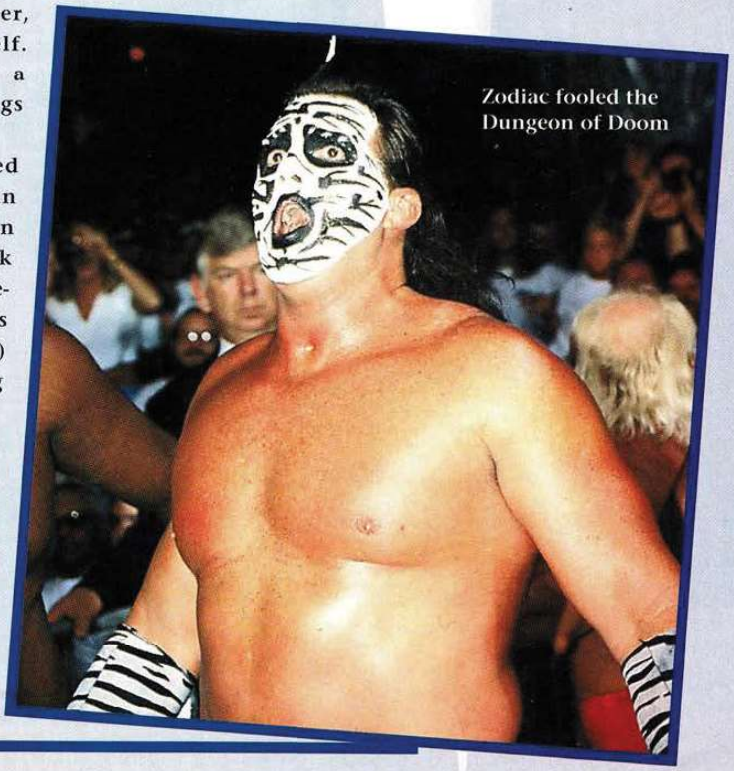
"Bottom line," Booty began, "Kimberly saw the HOTTEST BOOTY ever in WCW — and the entire world of professional wrestling, for that matter — and took her place next to me. She is the Booty Man's main booty. Oh, by the way, boys ... NOBODY TOUCHES MY BOOTY!

"Big Brother Booty has 18 years of wrestling experience and is prepared to use every bit of the knowledge learned over the years to overcome any obstacles in his path. Plus, I've been hanging and banging with the Hulkster for a over 21 years. The power of the Dungeon of Doom and the Four Horsemen is NOTHING compared to the Mega Powers ... we've proved that over time."

Booty added: "The Four Horsemen were completely unprepared for the power of Big Brother Booty. They had no idea what they were up against. They never could have been prepared for what they were facing with Hulkster, "Macho" and myself. And, this is just a preview of things to come."

Booty reported that he signed an "open contract," then handed it to Nick Lambros, WCW's Vice-President (business and administration) in hopes of snagging a title shot or two.

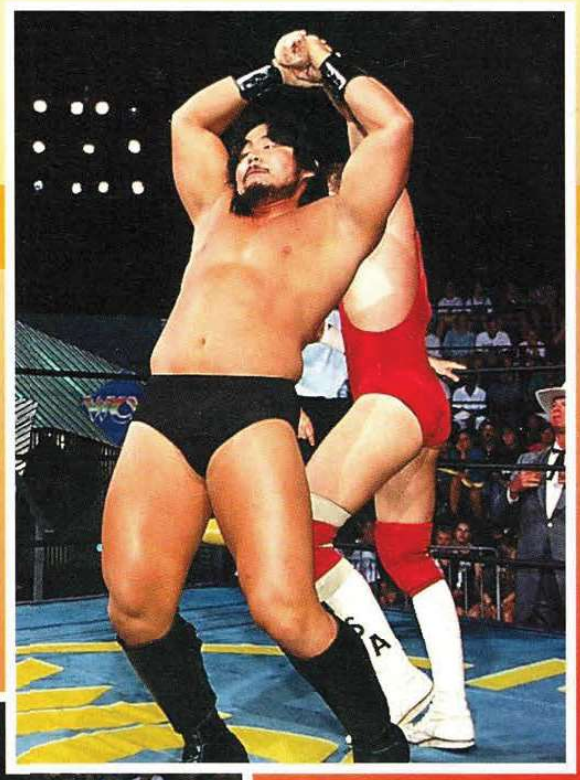
"I am here in WCW to keep the Mega Powers together forever and, on a personal note, I plan on winning some championship gold rather quickly," he said. "I would like to start with the WCW Television Championship, then, after winning that, who knows what else. I feel sorry for anyone who crosses my path. Big Brother Booty has only just begun to shake things up in WCW. Hold on to your hats 'cause things are gonna rock."

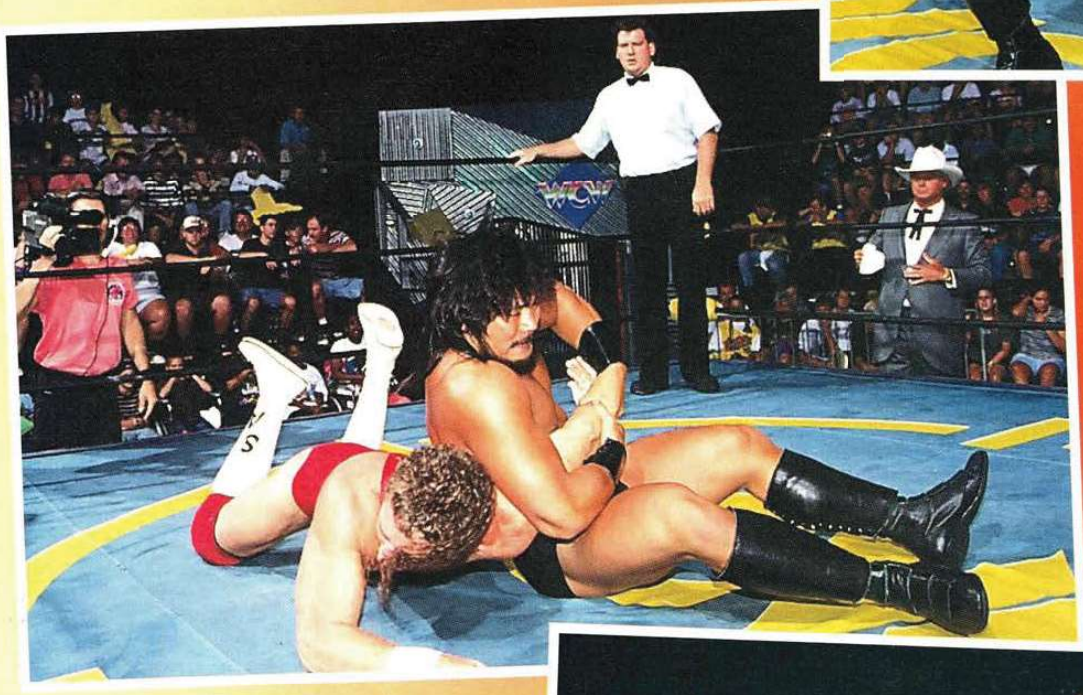


Zodiac fooled the Dungeon of Doom

EXPERT ASSESSMENT

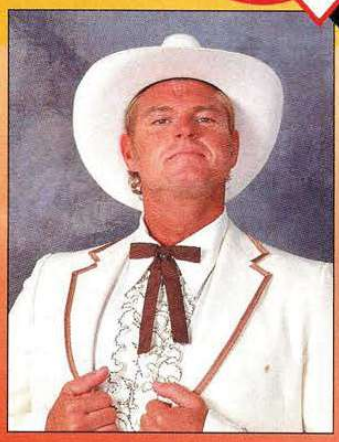
In this exclusive WCW Magazine feature, four of World Championship Wrestling's most knowledgeable personalities take an up-close-and-personal look at current WCW Superstars.
These aren't comments you'll hear at the arenas or on TV-these are the true beliefs of the biggest and most provocative mindsets in the sport today!





Height: 6' 2"
Weight: 270lbs
Hometown: Tokyo, Japan
Birthdate: July 22
Signature Maneuver: Kurasawa Armbar

KURASAWA



"As you well know, I've had a great relationship with Mr. Kurasawa for the past year. What a great and talented competitor this man is! Sure, there were times when Kurasawa went to the wonderful Sonny Onoo for advice, but I'm not the kind of man whose head is so big that he won't allow his proteges to seek the best

Colonel Robert Parker

technical wrestling lessons. I've long admired the great work ethic of the Oriental wrestlers, and anyone who has checked out my stable of stars knows that. That's why I truly believe Kurasawa is just minutes from being a Champion here in WCW. He's got size, strength, speed, raw talent, and best of all, knowledge. Never bet against any wrestler the Colonel has trained."

Col. Robert Parker is the self-proclaimed greatest showman in the world. He has several top WCW wrestlers under his guidance.

"All my good fans out there know all about my career, and they know that I had some awful battles against the Road Warriors, Animal and Hawk. They know that I also teamed with them to win the World Six-Man Tag Team Championship. They know that I truly believe that Animal and Hawk are two of the toughest men to ever set foot in the ring. So when Kurasawa broke Hawk's arm with that incredible armbar

Dusty Rhodes

of his, I could not believe it. NOBODY hurts Animal or Hawk and there was this big Japanese star putting Hawk out of action for many weeks. Hey, to me, that just says Kurasawa is tough, but it also means he's as square as a pool table and twice as green, at least in the head. Does he know what it's like to have a mad Road Warrior coming after him? From what I hear, Hawk still wants a piece of his hide."

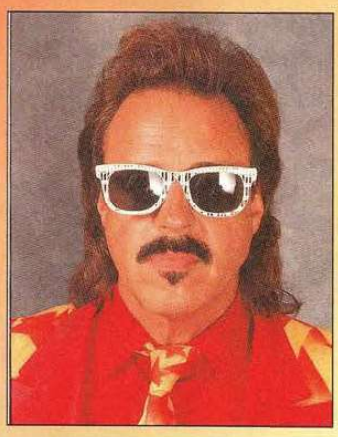
Dusty Rhodes, "The American Dream," is one of the most popular wrestlers of all time. During his incredible career he has managed to win the NWA World Heavyweight Championship on three different occasions.

"Kurasawa is one of those rare guys who can be a superstar in Japan and then come over here and immediately, without any fanfare, start dominating the competition in WCW. That's why WCW has to be seen as the world standard for all wrestling organizations today. There was a match that Chris Cruise, Dusty, and I were calling on WCW Pro on TBS a few months back that practically made my

Larry Zbyszko

eyes bulge out of my head. Kurasawa was wrestling a good young guy, and to his surprise, the youngster was giving him a real run for his money by using a lot of dropkicks and clotheslines. Kurasawa never lost his cool. He just waited for the right moment, leaned into the guy, dropped down with the armbar, and that's all she wrote. Verne Gagne used to be able to beat his opponents that way, and later I used to do the same thing. Now Kurasawa can clutch victories out of defeat, and that's why WCW's stars should never take their eyes off this man."

"Living Legend" Larry Zbyszko is regarded as one of the greatest wrestlers in history. He is currently the co-host of WCW Pro on TBS.



"Kurasawa is a really interesting young wrestler, I've got to admit. It really looks like he could beat just about anyone around WCW without too much effort. Should I consider recruiting him for my stable? It's an intriguing thought, isn't it? He's already teamed with the mighty Meng, and these two big men

Jimmy Hart

looked good together. Or he could bring a whole new dimension to a team with say someone like Hugh Morrus. It might work, but then again, it might not. Kurasawa seems like an independent guy even though he did spend sometime with Parker. So what should I do? And why am I asking an idiot like you? Ha ha ha ha ha!"

Jimmy Hart is arguably the greatest manager in the history of the sport. Currently he is associated with The Dungeon of Doom and Lex Luger.

TALKING POINT

WITH TONY SCHIAVONE

Never before in his long, storied career have I seen Ric Flair the way he is now. He truly is a "kid in a candy shop," with more "zip in his step."

The "Nature Boy" now goes to the ring flanked by not one, but two of the most beautiful women ever to manage in this sport. And it's quite interesting how different — and also how similar — these two beauties are.

First, there is Woman. Just the name implies an attitude. Woman? Yes, we know that, thank you. We can SEE that you are a woman. She is, though, much more than just a beautiful woman. She is, plain and simply, a vicious, dangerous, power-hungry, schemer ... quite possibly the best at all of those in the history of wrestling.

Back in January, in Las Vegas, when Woman came out with "Macho Man" Randy Savage and eventually slapped Flair, I knew something was up. There was no way Woman could ever slap Flair and actually mean it. In my discussions with Flair, he always talked about Woman with great respect, a respect that he's never had for any other manager, or female. Read into that whatever you will, but Flair was quite sincere. Therefore, when the slap occurred, I was in shock, to put it mildly.

However, it didn't take long for the "real" Woman to emerge. It was a plan all along — a plan orchestrated by Flair.

Flair, you see, is a master at the mental aspect of wrestling. Big city, bright lights and fast women. Why not have one of the fastest? Woman. Have her seem to befriend Savage, then ZING?!

Sure, it was far-fetched, but nothing compared to the change of heart of Miss Elizabeth.

Let's state the fact: Miss Elizabeth and "Macho Man" were married, a marriage that lasted seven years. Most will tell you that the split was bitter (as most are), but, over the years, the tension eased. In fact, over the years apart, Savage and Liz became good friends, so I'm told.

Elizabeth made a splendid return to wrestling in January in Las Vegas at the Clash of the Champions, only to turn her back on the "Macho Man" about a month later at Superbrawl VI. To that, it is obvious to me that Miss Elizabeth is the most self-centered woman I have ever seen. She thinks SHE is the reason for Savage's success. Now I know she was a big part, but THE reason, please.

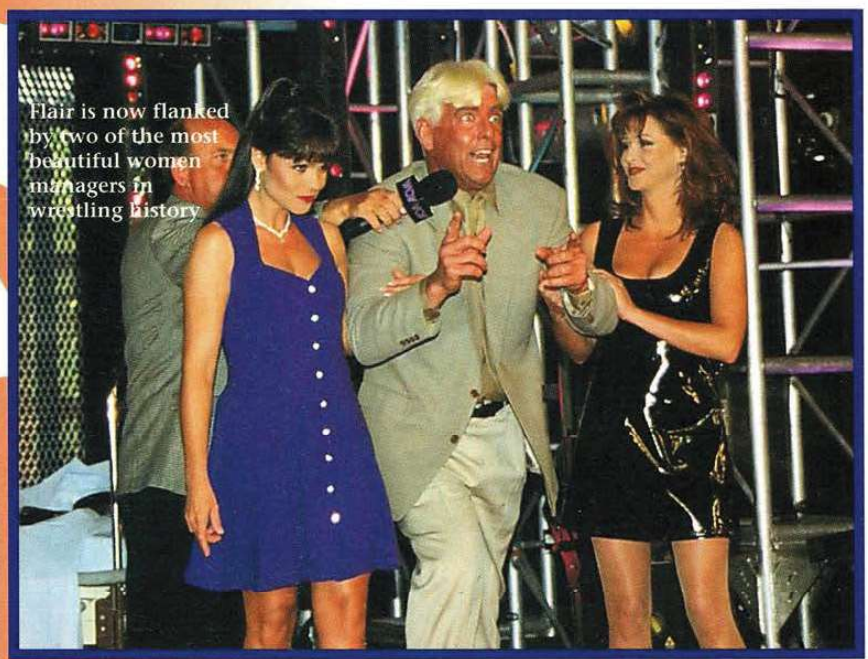
True, Savage enjoyed his first run at success with Elizabeth at his side, but she is not the beginning and the end. She gave him needed advise and, more important, confidence and guidance, but I never saw her make a lateral press, nor a cover.

The success of "Macho Man" Randy Savage is the result of HIS talent. End of story.

Liz's claims that she is the one single factor for his success is unfounded and brazen. What does she think about Flair? Does she think she is the reason for his success? How will they get along when Flair has problems, when he goes a long period with the World Heavyweight Championship around his waist?

I foresee some rocky times for Flair and his women. The old saying goes "two's company and three's a crowd." For Flair and the ladies, you have three very strong wills and big egos. Ric Flair is still the leader and although he loves to have beautiful women at his side, he will shirk them for a run at success. The man is completely driven by his love for the World Heavyweight Championship. And even though he is completely enthralled by the attention he is getting from two of the most beautiful women in the world, being the champ affords him the opportunity to live the life he has established for himself over the years.

This trio is effective and very good at what they do; however, it is a trip that is very fragile because of rampant egos and high goals. It could stay at the top or explode at any time. I vote for an explosion. I have had enough of the lows they will stoop to in their efforts to retain the World title.



Flair is now flanked by two of the most beautiful women managers in wrestling history

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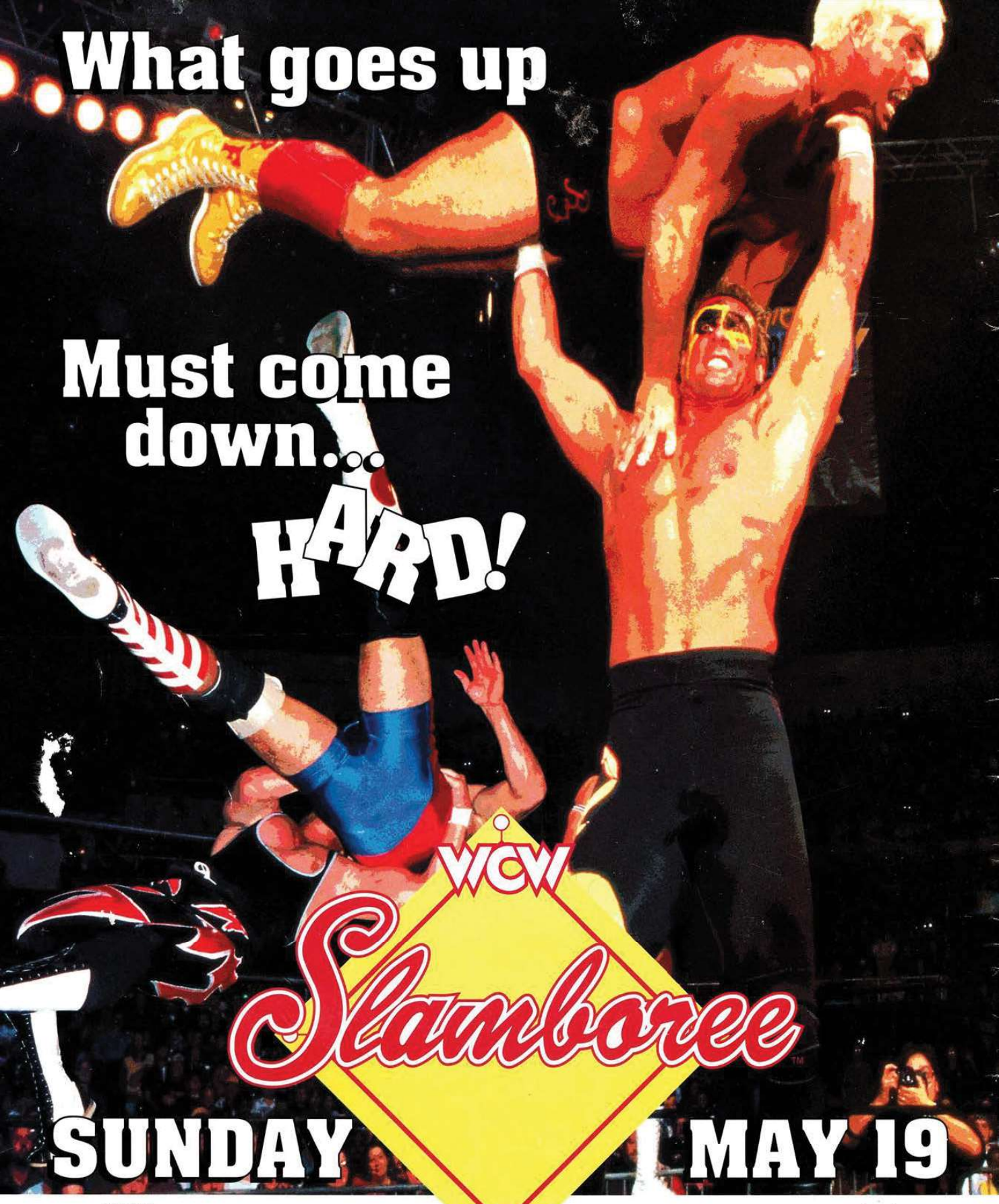

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